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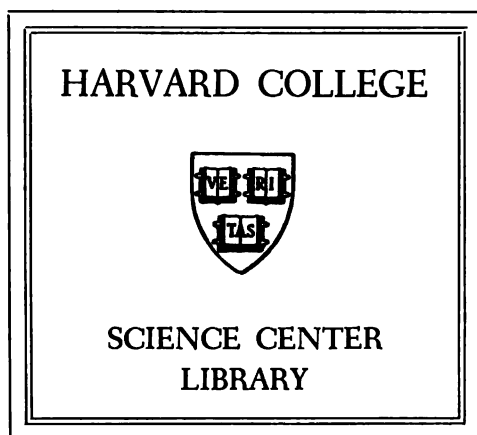
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A
PRACTICAL TREATISE
ON
BREWING,
BASED
ON CHEMICAL AND ECONOMICAL PRINCIPLES;
WITH
FORMULÆ FOR PUBLIC BREWERS,
AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR
Private Families.

By WILLIAM BLACK,
PRACTICAL BREWER.

THIRD EDITION, MUCH ENLARGED AND IMPROVED.

LONDON:
LONGMAN, BROWN, GREEN, AND LONGMANS.
1844.

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TO
THOMAS GRAHAM, ESQ.,
PROFESSOR OF CHEMISTRY IN THE LONDON UNIVERSITY,
F.R.S., &c. &c.,

~~This Work is Dedicated,~~
AS A TESTIMONY OF
HIGH RESPECT FOR HIS PROFESSIONAL ABILITIES,
AND ESTEEM FOR HIS PRIVATE WORTH,
BY
HIS OBLIGED AND FAITHFUL FRIEND,

THE AUTHOR.

PREFACE.

THE success of two Editions of the Treatise on Brewing, has encouraged the author to offer to the public a Third Edition, carefully revised and corrected. A considerable quantity of important matter has also been added, which has had the benefit of being revised by Professor Graham, of the London University, whose eminence in the science of chemistry is universally acknowledged. In no instance does the author refer to the opinions of others: all the information which he communicates being derived entirely from his own practical experience, in all parts of the United Kingdom.

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INTRODUCTION.

So many treatises on Brewing, both theoretical and practical, have already appeared, that the subject may very naturally be considered to have been exhausted. Some of these productions, however, are too homely ; while others so abound with scientific technicalities, as to be altogether unintelligible to the general reader.

That Brewing is a chemical process, no one can deny, and of course, in every work on the subject, some chemical terms must be used. In the following pages, however, it is not intended to give any account of the production or nature of gases or other chemical agents, further than may be absolutely requisite to elucidate the subject. Nor is it intended to introduce a history of the origin of Beer, which must in a great measure be conjectural.

In most arts, such as dyeing, iron-making, calico-printing, glass-making, &c., great improvements have been introduced by the assistance of chemis-

try ; while the art of Brewing, which may be considered equally important, has remained, to say the least, stationary. This may be easily accounted for. It is well known that many eminent chemists have turned their attention to this subject, and would no doubt have made as great improvements in it, as they have done in other arts, had they been furnished with the same advantages in regard to practical information. This, however, unfortunately has not been the case ; for practical brewers, generally speaking, either from self-sufficiency, jealousy, or ignorance, are very unwilling to impart their real or supposed information to any one ; but particularly to men of science, whose inquiries excite their jealousy. This, in many instances, prompts them rather to mislead than to inform the inquirers.

Another obstacle to improvement is, that almost every brewer in the course of his practice, persuades himself that he has made some discovery, by which he can make his beer better than that of his neighbour. These nostrums, though often worse than useless to the possessors, might, if freely communicated to scientific inquirers, lead to some improvement ; but they are invariably concealed, and thus the want of the combination of science with practice, throws insurmountable difficulties in the way of acquiring useful and accurate information. Had it been otherwise, there can be no doubt, that the

Art of Brewing would have been long ago placed, by the assistance of chemistry, on a more scientific footing.

Having had occasion, in the course of a connection of more than forty years with the brewery, to work in premises very differently constructed, we have invariably found, that in each some cause existed which prevented uniformity in the process of fermentation ; and until that cause, whatever it might be, was traced and removed, no regular system could be introduced. This sufficiently shows why brewers who go from one brewery to another, cannot arrive at the same successful results with regard to the quality of the beer, although they pursue precisely the same system, and even on some occasions employ the same materials as before. They are thus, from want of chemical knowledge, left completely in the dark, without the possibility of tracing causes and effects. This shows the absolute necessity of applying the discoveries of chemistry, as in other arts, to account for and rectify these anomalies, which without such aid cannot be effected.

The principal object of the following treatise is to trace the causes of these anomalies, and as far as possible to point out the means of removing or rectifying them ; and on all occasions to advance only such opinions as are founded on principles strictly chemical and practical, without which, in the

present improved mode of research, they can be but of little value ; dogmas being now entirely exploded.

Many brewers are highly indignant when supposed not to be thoroughly acquainted with the art of brewing, in every department. We generally find, however, that they who exhibit the greatest self-conceit, are the most ignorant ; trusting every thing to chance, and professedly paying no regard either to aromas or appearances of any kind. Strange to say, however, in some instances, such brewers succeed better than those who follow a more scientific system. This may be accounted for on principles which have no reference to any scientific knowledge of brewing. It is possible that their brew-houses may have been, by mere chance, so constructed, as to render their operations less liable to the electro-chemical fluctuations which are constantly going on in the earth and atmosphere, or which are caused by an injudicious mixture of metals connected with their gyle tuns or other utensils. When, however, the said brew-houses must be altered or enlarged as circumstances may require, how often do we find that the chance turns against them, and that by the introduction of different metals, in what is called the new and improved mode of constructing utensils, or from other causes, the quality of their beer is so much deteriorated as materially to injure the trade. It is

then only that the self-sufficient brewer begins to discover, that his knowledge of brewing is only superficial, and his process dependent upon fortuitous circumstances, which nothing but a distinct knowledge of chemistry can enable him to comprehend.

It will, therefore, clearly appear, that when alterations are required in an old brew-house, or a new one has to be constructed, the greatest care must be taken to avoid, as far as possible, in the formation of the utensils all electro-chemical agency.

Should the following work be the means of drawing the attention of brewers in general, not only to the injurious effects of electro-chemical action, but also to other causes which prevent successful fermentations, and thus introduce a more scientific and a more uniformly certain system of brewing than has been hitherto established, the Author's object will be accomplished.

It is impossible to describe in writing the different aromas and appearances, so as to make them intelligible, according to our own sentiments on the subject. We have, however, endeavoured to give as much information as possible, in plain, simple language, so as to suit every capacity: but it is only as they may occur in practice, that the different appearances and aromas, indicative of good or bad fermentations, can be described and pointed out; and no one should pretend to possess a thorough

knowledge of brewing, until he can at once discover and rectify every thing which happens unfavourable to the desired result,—the production of good, sound, malt liquor.

B R E W I N G.

BEFORE commencing the subject of brewing, it may be proper to say something of the nature of the ingredients used in the manufacture of beer. We shall, therefore, begin with *water*, the most indispensable ingredient.

WATER.

The word Liquor is technically applied in the brewery, to water. A great deal more importance is attached to the quality of this indispensable article, than perhaps it deserves. Many are of opinion that the difference in the flavour and quality of beer proceeds in some measure from the different substances contained in the water used by the brewer.

To this opinion we cannot subscribe, for it is impossible to suppose that any slight difference discoverable by analysis, in the quantities of carbonates or sulphates which may be dissolved in the water, could possibly affect either the flavour or quality of the beer.

Water, as usually met with, contains the following substances, which may, chemically speaking, be called impurities; namely,

Carbonic acid gas, to which the sparkling appearance of pump or spring water is owing.

Carbonate of lime, which is nearly insoluble in water, but which is often held in solution by excess of carbonic acid. When such water is boiled, the carbonic acid in excess is expelled, and the lime falls down, forming the crust in boilers and other similar vessels.

Sulphate of lime: this salt communicates the "hard" property, as it is called, to water, and is always known to be present, when soap which is dissolved in it curdles.

Besides these impurities, water always contains muriate of soda (common salt), and often other muriates. By using the term impurities, we do not intend to imply that anything exists in the water, which when it is drunk, renders it prejudicial: the term simply signifies any substance foreign to the real composition of water. Even rain-water, which is the result of a natural distillation, contains impurities.

Of mineral waters we shall say nothing, as no one could think of employing them in brewing, unless from necessity.

The above mentioned saline substances, we believe, cannot impart any flavour either to the worts or the beer. Carbonate of lime, as above mentioned, is partially separated by boiling, and sulphate of lime may be easily decomposed and the lime separated, by a little alkali ; as for instance, by carbonate of soda. We thus reduce the different kinds of water to the same condition, and the products will also be the same.

While brewers and others are continually speaking of the water with which they brew being preferable to any other water, they never think of the difference of the soils on which the barley is grown. Now as the wine from grapes raised on one soil, is inferior to wine from grapes produced on another, so every farmer, from experience, will tell you, that such and such soil is not fit for barley ; and there can be no doubt that barley grown on certain soils will make inferior malt. In such cases the water used in brewing is often blamed, while the inferior malt, which is the real cause, is blameless.

Stagnant Water.

Many brewers suppose that, by exposing water to the action of the atmosphere for a certain period, they soften it, and make it more fit for the purposes

of brewing, and others even prefer stagnant water, even when they have an abundant supply of fine pump-water at command. Exposing spring-water to the atmosphere can do very little harm in winter, and perhaps as little good; but in summer it soon becomes, by exposure, impregnated with filth like stagnant water. Would any one, we ask, after having seen a drop of stagnant water, as exhibited by the oxy-hydrogen microscope, think of using it for brewing, unless from necessity. Yet we have seen people, who were so prejudiced in favour of old customs, as to persist in using it even at considerable expense, and after its baneful effects had been distinctly pointed out, at the same time that they had an abundant supply of fine spring-water always at command, which cost them nothing. There can be no doubt that putrefactive fermentation must at all times, during summer, be going on in all stagnant waters, produced by the falling of leaves, and the depositions of innumerable insects.

This water, we all know, cannot be drunk without prejudice to health; and it is also very unfit for culinary purposes. How then can it be fit for brewing?

In some parts of the kingdom, however, no other water can be procured, and we have seen it impart putrescence to the beer, which could be discovered when smelling or tasting it. In all such cases, the water should be *boiled*, and allowed to cool naturally

before mashing; or still better, a quantity of charcoal and lime should be boiled in it, which will, in some measure, correct the putridity. Would the action of chloride of lime be advantageous in such cases?

Running Water.

Running water from rivers or rivulets, although preferable to stagnant water, is still open to some of the same objections, being liable to contain some organic matter. In the first place, we do not know how many different mineral springs may be discharged into it; and in the next place, it is, in summer, liable to be contaminated with the same impurities as stagnant water, although perhaps not to so great an extent.

We shall sum up the whole that may be advanced on this subject, by recommending the purest water which can be found, as fittest for brewing; and by stating that spring-water (not mineral) when immediately pumped up, has the best chance of being pure.

BARLEY.

Any kind of grain can be converted into malt : but in England it is most usual to employ barley for that purpose. There are three species of barley.

1. *Hordeum Distichum*, the common barley, characterised by two lateral rows of seeds on the spike. Professor Thomson's experiments give 0·343 inch as the average length of a seed ; 0·143 the breadth ; and 0·108 the thickness.

2. *Hordeum Vulgare*, commonly termed *Bigg* in Scotland, having, according to Linnæus, two rows of seeds more distinct, and two imperfect ones.

3. *Hordeum Hexastichon*, with hermaphrodite flowers and six rows of seeds.—Records of General Science, vol. i. 441.

By the experiments of Professor Thomson in 1806, malt of bigg of that year, was found inferior to that of English barley by 14 per cent. : the weight of the bigg being 48·848 lbs. per imperial bushel, while the barley weighed 51·444 lbs. From these experiments, the excise duty on malted bigg was fixed at 16s. per quarter, whilst that on malted barley was 20s. 8d. per quarter.

Since 1806, from superior knowledge of agriculture, and the selection of improved varieties of the different grains, &c., both barley and bigg have much improved in quality, and have increased in

weight per bushel: and it is now the opinion of some practical men, that the best bigg is very little inferior to barley for malting.

In malting barley, the loss in weight is from 21 to 22 per cent. Of this 14 consists of moisture, $1\frac{1}{2}$ disappears during the steeping, 3 on the floors, 3 by commings or rootlets, and the waste $1\frac{1}{2}$. As barley when thoroughly dried loses 6 per cent. of moisture, Professor Thomson considers the actual loss in malting as only 8 per cent.

The specific gravity of barley is from 1.280 to 1.333, that of malt 1.201.

From the interesting experiments of Messrs. Colin and Edwards upon the germination of different kinds of grain, it appears that when wheat, barley, French beans, or linseed, were immersed for a quarter of an hour in water at the temperature of 154° F., the power of germination was completely destroyed; and that water at 122° F. is the highest limit at which it is possible for barley to germinate after immersion.

It is very beneficial to kiln-dry the barley before malting. In the early part of the malting season when the barley is damp, it cannot be made into good malt, unless thoroughly dried on the kiln. The grain absorbs moisture with greater avidity and regularity, and the process is facilitated. In good seasons, when barley is abundant, of good quality, and of a low price, brewers would find it very advan-

tageous to lay in and kiln-dry a large stock, to be kept for malting the next season. By kiln-drying it will be kept perfectly sound, and will malt as freely or more so, than new barley; and should the season prove unfavourable, such provision will be a considerable saving.

By the same valuable experiments of Messrs. Colin and Edwards upon the germination of different kinds of grain, we are led to suggest that the temperature used for drying the barley should not exceed 122° F., while in drying pale malt, the temperature is frequently as high as 160° or 170° . In the Records of General Science, vol. i. 445, Dr. Thomson states that very pale malt may be dried, although the temperature be brought as high as 175° .

The medium, however, through which the heat is communicated, modifies the range of temperature considerably. Thus the seeds before mentioned, if exposed to a temperature of 143° in air containing vapour, or of 167° in dry air, are deprived of their vegetating properties; and when wheat, oats, or barley, had been kept in sand at 113° , they would not germinate. Immersion in water at 167° for 14 seconds destroyed the power of germination. The grains of starch burst at a temperature of 167° according to Raspail.

In the Ann. de Chimie et de Phys. tom. v., Ann. Philos. xii. p. 201., Proust gives the following comparative analysis of barley and malt:

	BARLEY.	MALT.
Resin	1	1
Gum	4	15
Sugar	5	15
Gluten	3	1
Starch	32	56
Hordein	55	12
	<hr/> 100	<hr/> 100

These component parts, however, must differ considerably according to the different qualities of the barley from which the malt is made. Dr. Turner says, "the conditions necessary to vegetation are three-fold ; namely, moisture, a certain temperature, and the presence of oxygen gas." The necessity of moisture to this process has been proved by extensive observation. It is well known that the concurrence of other conditions cannot enable seeds to germinate, provided they are kept dry. That the presence of air is necessary to germination was demonstrated by several philosophers, such as Ray, Boyle, Boerhaave, and Muschenbroeck, before the chemical nature of the atmosphere was discovered. Achard afterwards demonstrated that seeds in general would not germinate without the presence of oxygen gas ; and his experiments have been fully confirmed by subsequent observers. It has even been shewn by Humboldt, that a dilute solution of chlorine, owing to the tendency of that gas to de-

compose water and set oxygen at liberty, promotes the germination of seeds.

The late experiments of Saussure (1834), prove that in germination *nitrogen* is always *absorbed*.

The best barleys for malting are those called *mellow* in contradistinction to those which are hard or *steely*. The mellow barleys, generally speaking, are thin-skinned, and when the pickle is divided either by the teeth or a pen-knife, the kernel is white and floury. The steely barley may also be thin-skinned, but when divided in the same way, the kernel has a bluish cast something like rice. This barley, although equally heavy, or even heavier than the other, will never produce such good malt, nor will the beer brewed from it have the same mellow-ness or richness of flavour as that produced from mellow malt.

Care should also be taken, that corn of different weights and from different soils, should be kept separate, so as that each different quality may be used *alone*. The heavier barley will generally require to be longer under water than the other, and when mixed will not grow equally on the floors, (an objection usually attending shipped or foreign barley), thus preventing the possibility of making fine malt. It will also be found, that cargoes of barley will never make such fine malt as that bought directly from the farmers. The reason is obvious—the different qualities cannot be kept separate.

MALTING.

Many opinions are entertained as to the best mode of making malt ; some persons being great advocates for sprinkling the corn with water during certain stages of the process upon the floors, while others maintain that nothing of the kind is necessary, but rather injurious. As this is not intended for a treatise on malting, we shall not enter into any discussion upon that subject ; but shall merely observe, that the practice may be either necessary or not, according to circumstances. In some malt-houses we have found it absolutely necessary to sprinkle for promoting vegetation, while in others, differently constructed, nothing of the kind was required.

The *Excise* allows sufficient latitude for wetting any kind of barley ; it must not, however, be less than forty hours under water. The general mode of ascertaining when barley has been sufficiently steeped for malting, is first by its increase in bulk as shown by the dipping rod. A practical maltster generally judges from the compressibility of the pickle when squeezed endways between the thumb and finger. When sufficiently steeped, and after the water has been discharged, the barley is thrown (or in some instances drops through a valve or socket) from the cistern into the couch, where it must by law be let remain undisturbed not less than

twenty-six hours, but longer if thought necessary. It is then spread out upon the floor to a thickness greater or less, according to the season and temperature of the atmosphere, at the discretion of the malster. The rootlets now begin to make their appearance, and great care must be taken to turn the corn occasionally, but gently, so as to prevent any of the fibres shooting out too long, or wiry, as it is technically called. A short bushy root is most desirable. But each variety of barley exhibits different lengths of rootlets. Thus the chevalier is very different from the common barley and the bigg.

No definite rules can be laid down as to how often the floor or piece of malt may require to be turned during the process; this must be left to the skill and judgment of the operator.

Although the law does not permit water to be sprinkled on the corn until after a certain period, when in our opinion it should be no longer necessary, yet the maltster is allowed to sprinkle water upon the bare floor before turning the corn either forward or backward, and this may often be found very beneficial.

Some maltsters have now adopted the thermometer as a sure guide during the process: whenever that instrument indicates an increase of temperature of so many degrees, the malt is turned. This, however, is not a certain criterion. The

thermometer will be found a highly useful instrument to guide an inexperienced operator to a certain extent, but it should be used in conjunction with practical skill, else it may do as much harm as good. The humidity of the atmosphere over the malt should be taken into account. The thermometer only shows the *temperature*, a *hygrometer* (Daniel's) would point out the moisture, &c. Quite as much injury is done by turning too often, as by repeating that operation too seldom. An experienced maltster is guided a great deal by the appearance and smell of the corn in process, and also by the increase of temperature. The common mode of judging is by thrusting the hand into any piece of malt, and taking from the bottom a sample. The state of the rootlets of this portion are then examined; if they are running wild, as it is technically termed, or one fibre be protruding far beyond the others—the corn should be turned—if any fœtid smell be perceptible, the same operation is necessary, and also a fresh current of atmospheric air to supply more nitrogen and oxygen to the malt. Mr. Rigg's late publication states that a great deal of carbon must be given out during the germination of the malt. It has been already stated that short bushy rootlets are the best; the great desideratum, therefore, is to preserve these bushy rootlets, which can only be accomplished by proper care and judgment in turning the corn. The skill of the maltster may

be always known by this criterion. Whenever the rootlets begin to appear the spire or acrospire begins to shoot up at the back of the pickle, and as it proceeds the barley is converted into malt. The nearer, therefore, that the spire can be brought to the far end of the pickle, without protruding beyond it, the more perfect will be the malt. About the fourteenth day, generally speaking, the malt should be ready to be brought to the kiln—previously, however, it should be gradually made mellow, by gathering it thicker on the floors, so as to come to a temperature of 75° or 80° F. The steep or any water which may have been applied during the process, should have been by this time pretty nearly evaporated, so that the malt may feel dry to the hand.

Drying Malt.

There are various opinions as to the best mode of drying malt, some adopting a long process, and others a process much shorter. If the kilns are properly constructed, and the malt be thoroughly made before being put upon the kiln, twenty-four hours, or perhaps less, will be found fully adequate for that purpose. The greater the quantity of heated air that can be thrown in during the process of drying, the more mellow will the malt be. The best constructed kilns, therefore, are those by which the greatest quantity of heated air can be most quickly introduced. If a great current of heated air

be constantly directed through the malt on the kiln no danger of acquiring colour need be apprehended. This current of heated air, however, should be admitted through open apertures, running longitudinally along the furnace fire, on the outside of the Welch lumps or fire-bricks. If, on the contrary, colour should be wanted, it is only necessary, just before taking the malt off the kiln, that all currents of air should be shut off or prevented, excepting from below the bottom of the furnace; a quick fire having been previously made and kept up, any colour may be very speedily acquired. Care, however, must be taken, during this process, by frequently turning on the kiln, to prevent the malt being burnt.

There is a prevailing error, that malt should be frequently turned on the kiln during the process of drying. A little consideration, however, will show the inaccuracy of this opinion. It has been already stated, that when the proper currents of heated air are introduced in drying, no colouring of the malt need be apprehended. We know that the portion of the malt nearest the covering of the kiln sometimes feels quite dry, while that on the top is quite damp; if, therefore, by turning, we throw this part of the malt upon the top and the wet to the bottom, the steam of the wet malt from below must pass through the drier malt on the top, thus creating double work. The steam, also, by again passing

through the drier malt on the top, tends to render it tough. If the kilns be properly constructed, turning is not only unnecessary, but injurious, until the malt be nearly ready for removal from the kiln, when several turns, with a brisk fire, may be necessary to render the dryness of the malt uniform; by which, also, the malt will be rendered uniformly mellow.

This, perhaps, may be thought merely theoretical; but the author's own practice as a maltster, and also that of several experienced maltsters, to whom it has been communicated, and by them adopted, will prove the contrary.

Selecting Malt for Brewing.

It is of material consequence to the brewer to have the best malts for the purpose of brewing. Some brewers, when working with inferior malt, think that an additional quantity will compensate for quality. This is, however, an erroneous opinion. Inferior malts can never impart the same mellowness and richness to ale or beer as those of superior quality. From using inferior malt, we also run a risk of having unsound worts. The best, therefore, will be found the cheapest.

How to judge of Quality.

In buying malt, a good judge, on taking up a handful, examines narrowly the different pickles, to ascertain if the spire be well grown, that is, at least

two-thirds up the back of the pickle ; he also looks for sleepers or dead corns which have not sprung at all. Should there be many of these, he will probably reject the malt. But a mode of judging of malt which is very good, is one that is old and simple. Count out indiscriminately from the bulk about 200 pickles ; throw them into a tumbler of cold water and stir them ; the pickles thoroughly malted will float horizontally on the surface, those half-malted will float vertically, one end hanging down, and the unmalted will sink to the bottom. We can thus at once form an accurate estimation of the quality of any malt.

The next thing we have to attend to is the weight of malt. Barley, in the process of malting, loses rather more than one-fifth its weight, the malt consequently should be lighter in the same proportion than the barley from which it is made. Some time ago about 40 lbs. per bushel was thought a maximum weight for malt, and many would not have bought it if above that weight. Now, however, from superior culture, the quality of barley has been very much improved, and fine samples may be found weighing 56 or 57 lbs. per bushel. The finest malt from such barley will weigh about 43 or 44 lbs. per bushel ; and if it be really all malt, its value may be determined by its weight, the heavier malt always yielding the greater produce. Still the final criterion must be the specific gravity of the worts as deter-

mined by the hydrometer or saccharometer. There are fewer husks proportionally in heavy than in light malt; and according to the weight and paucity of husks will be the extract in the mash-tun.

Malt of 40 lbs. weight per bushel should yield from 80 to 84 lbs. gravity per quarter by Long's instrument, or from 220 to 233 specific gravity by Allen's or Bates's saccharometer. Good malt, however, if above that weight, will be found to produce more than the other, in proportion to the difference in weight, and is of course of greater or less value accordingly. In Ireland, all malt is sold by weight, 168 lbs. being allowed for a barrel, and it would perhaps be as well for the buyer, if the same method were adopted in this country.

Grinding Malt.

Whether malt gives the best extract when ground with stones, or crushed with rollers, is undecided. We have seen this point thus put to the test. From the same bulk of malt, equal quantities were taken, and the one ground with stones, the other crushed with rollers: these were mashed in separate tuns for the same brewing: the difference in produce, however, was so trifling, as to make it a matter of little importance which was used. Perhaps grinding will yield a little more from coarse imperfect malts.

Many brewers think, if the pickle is at all broken, it is better than finer grinding or crushing. These,

however, attach immense importance to the brilliancy of the first tap or wort. If the extract be thoroughly made, as will be afterwards explained, the brilliancy of the tap is of little consequence.

Malt, when ground, should never be allowed to remain in sacks, or be in any way exposed to the atmosphere. From exposure it imbibes moisture, and hence acquires acidity. We have invariably seen tainted or unsound worts produced from malt thus exposed.

Kiln-drying Malt.

All brewers who make their own malt, have kilns always at hand; and there can be no doubt that every brewer who can command the means, ought to make his own malt: he can then at all times so modify the colour and flavour, as to produce in his beer those which are most desirable to his customers. When the brewer is necessitated to purchase instead of making his malt, it is in all cases very desirable that he should have a kiln in his premises, for the purpose of re-drying malt which has suffered injury by exposure to the atmosphere, or by imbibing moisture during a sea voyage. Such malt, if used without re-drying, will invariably produce unsound worts, and consequently bad beer; but if re-dried previous to mashing, the beer will have a fair chance of being good. Malt absorbs moisture very readily, and loses colour by keeping

and exposure to light. Re-drying in such cases will be found a very simple and useful method of producing sound and well-flavoured worts, and should never therefore be omitted by the brewer. Maltsters generally tell you that the re-drying of malt spoils it. It undoubtedly spoils their own profits by reducing the bulk, but certainly not the malt—an additional price would therefore be necessary to reimburse the maltster for re-drying.

Brown Malt.

Brown, or, as it is commonly called, blown malt, is usually made for porter-brewers, by applying a very strong heat to the malt immediately when put upon the kiln. This is done by means of faggots of dry, hard wood, commonly beech or birch; fir imparting a tarry taste. This process occupies only a few hours. The malt is spread very thin, and derives the name of blown, from the extreme heat separating and blowing out the husk from the kernel, so as to make the pickles appear of much greater bulk than they would otherwise be; thus producing perhaps 32 per cent. less extract than malt dried in the common way.

We are of opinion, however, that high dried, close amber malts, are better than blown malts in every respect. These are dried in the common way, the colour being thrown in without blowing, by

a brisk fire of dry hard wood, just before being taken off the kiln, as already described.

Blown malts are now comparatively but little used ; they are generally made of the worst barleys, and although bought at a much lower price, are very unproductive. Both colour and flavour can now be given quite as well with the best roasted malt, but great care must be taken in the selection of it. A great deal of it *also* is made from the worst malt, and often with a mixture of barley ; and if such be used, it will give neither the requisite flavour nor colour. Some of it also is too much carbonized or roasted, which imparts a disagreeable roughness to the beer, without the other requisites. It should therefore always be bought from respectable houses, who, although they must charge higher prices, will not attempt to deceive. There are many respectable houses in and about London who now make roasted malt, from among whom we shall particularize three, for the information of country brewers, who may not otherwise know where to apply, viz., Mrs. Backhouse, Coxe's Square, Spitalfields ; Messrs. Howell & Co., Queenhithe ; and Mr. H. B. Walmsley, 24, New Road, Mile End ;—all in London.

About five per cent., or one quarter in twenty of well-made roasted malt, with well-cured pale malt alone in the grist, will generally be found sufficient, or rather less if used with a mixture of high dried

close amber malts. As the grains are sometimes objected to by the cow-feeders when the roasted malt is used in the mash-tun, it will answer equally well when thrown into the copper, where the quantity can be easily adjusted to the colour required.

ELECTRICITY.

On the injurious influence of Electro-chemical Action in the Process of Brewing.

It is now admitted that electricity is a powerful agent in all processes both natural and artificial. Wherever heat is liberated spontaneously in any process, it must proceed from one or more of the substances employed, acting upon others of a different nature; and when heat is thus produced, it may be supposed to proceed from chemical action, and thus evolving electricity.

Fermentation is a process of this nature, and the production of alcohol may be said to be partly effected by galvanic or electric action. Although fermentation has always been considered a very uncertain operation, and subject to every fluctuation of weather, we entertain some doubts upon that subject, and are also inclined to think that the

causes influencing fermentation are not so little under control as may be generally supposed. If alcohol be the production of a regular chemical action during the process of fermentation, by disturbing the progress of that action, we will no doubt materially interfere with the results. If we find that in certain situations, and under certain circumstances, fermentation goes on much more regularly and uniformly than in others, while using precisely the same kind of materials, we have a right to suppose that the want of uniformity must proceed from causes, which may be traced and removed. That the direct application of common electricity or voltaic electricity materially affects fermentation, there cannot be the slightest doubt; indeed it is established by several undeniable facts.

We shall, however, in the first place, insert an abstract of a paper on this subject, which was communicated by the author, to the British Association at their meeting in Liverpool, in 1837.

“I trust I may be excused in drawing the attention of the meeting of the British Association to a short notice of the injurious influence which electricity exerts on the fermentation of the worts of the brewer and the wash of the distiller. The powerful and injurious effects produced by this agent in the manufacture of beer, I endeavoured to point out, in a little work, lately published, on Brewing; which, although it has excited some notice among a few

practical men, yet the subject has not received that attention which its great importance deserves. But I entertain a hope, that this matter will stimulate some members of the Association minutely to examine the nature and extent of the electrical agency, and, by well-devised experiments (towards which, if required, I should most willingly give any information or assistance,) succeed in convincing brewers and distillers of the necessity of studying the laws which regulate this all-powerful agent, in order that they may avoid its injurious effects in the manufacture of beer or spirits. Beer, to the industrious classes in this country, may be considered a necessary of life; and its wholesomeness and purity must, therefore, be of vital importance. The quality varies exceedingly in different parts of the kingdom, and what is considered good beer in one district, may in other parts be pronounced *execrable*. One great cause of the inferiority of beer and ale in the country, and of the great diversity of flavour, is the want of competition; it being only in the large towns that effectual competition exists. In the country districts there is little or none. The brewers have been long in the habit of purchasing all the public-houses in their neighbourhood, and these houses being limited in number, the labouring-classes are prevented from selecting their own beverage, and have no choice but to drink that of the proprietors of the public-houses, who are also the

brewers. Most of such beers are very imperfectly manufactured, and are usually foul and yeast-bitten, and have a very disagreeable, rank bitter, derived from the yeast left in the beer, instead of its being thrown out by a proper process. This bitter, although often mistaken for it, is very different from the agreeable and aromatic flavour of the hop. Yeast-bitten beer is particularly injurious to wet-nurses in the suckling of infants. In some districts, unsound, stale beer, is the favourite beverage ; so that, from long use, good, sound beer, would not be appreciated, but rejected. A frequent cause of such inferior beers proceeds from want of proper attention being paid to cleanliness, which produces tainted worts, and consequently bad fermentations. I suspect, however, that it very often proceeds from electric or galvanic agency : the fermenting vessels, being very frequently sunk in the ground, are particularly liable to be affected by all electrical and atmospherical changes, as I have had many opportunities of observing. It is to the latter that I wish to direct the attention of the meeting. It has long been familiarly known, that thunder sours beer ; but, though generally known, very few brewers have inquired into the cause, or adopted means to prevent this atmospheric, or other action, affecting beer during thunder-storms, or in the different electric states of the earth and atmosphere. The extreme rapidity with which the electricity is evolved during

a thunder-storm, is strikingly exhibited in a distiller's fermenting back. These fermenting backs are often made of cast iron, and either fixed in the earth, or connected with it by an intermediate iron vessel, employed in regulating the temperature. A very short time after a thunder-storm begins, or when the atmosphere is highly charged with electric matter, the appearance in the back altogether changes. The usual healthy character of the fermentation disappears; and it is now attended with a hissing noise and frothy head: and when samples are drawn and examined, is found to have risen, instead of fallen in gravity many degrees, and to contain 5 per cent. or more, of acid. Under these circumstances, the distiller has no alternative but to run off his wash into the stills, although they may be as high as 10 or 12 degrees above water, or occasionally of much higher gravity.

“But the chemical agency exercised by a highly electrical state of the atmosphere, is not confined solely to the fermentation of vegetable substances; it affects even the smelting of iron. It is well known to iron-masters and smelters, that in certain conditions of the atmosphere, and particularly during sultry summer weather, they can never, with certainty, calculate upon producing good, soft, tenacious iron, technically called No. 1; it is much more generally the white, hard, inferior kind, called No. 3, or a mixture of Nos. 2 and 3. Now, in such cir-

cumstances, it will be found that the iron was melted during a thunder-storm, or when the air was highly charged with electricity. In these cases the ore shall be of the best quality, and all the manipulations belonging to the melting be carefully looked after, and even a much greater charge of coke be employed (the *dernier resort* of the melter), when apprehensive of hard, inferior iron, yet, notwithstanding all these precautions, the yield of iron is of the quality No. 3. The operating cause we consider to be electricity. The result of my observations, in different parts of the kingdom (and they have been pretty widely extended), is, that where the fermenting tuns have been placed upon baked wooden bearers, and supported upon brick or wooden tiers, or columns, and every other precaution used to insulate the vessels as much as possible, the fermentations proceed regularly and progressively, and the beer turns out good, bright, and sound, and will keep so; but when the tuns are placed on, or imbedded in the earth, or when electric action is induced by a chain of copper or metal pipes, making a complete galvanic circle, the fermentations are very irregular, and do not go through their changes in anything like order, and show only extremely high, light, and puffy heads. Frequently the attenuation or decrease of specific gravity altogether stops; and the beer becomes sour, or partially unsound, before leaving the fermenting tun. A rather singular attendant on

this galvanic action in the fermentation is, the rise of the temperature of the worts in the fermenting tun will, in the course of one night, be 10 or 12 degrees, or more, and without a corresponding attenuation; while, in all healthy fermentations, there is a regular and proportioned decrease of gravity for increase of temperature. This is a point (although at present very little known or attended to) of the utmost consequence in regulating the proper quantities of yeast to be employed as a ferment, according to the specific gravity of the worts, and quality of the beer to be produced. A great deal of attention has of late years been bestowed on the mechanical construction of the utensils employed in breweries, in order to diminish manual labour and the waste of beer, and in making them quite *automatic*. In these improvements, unfortunately, too little attention has been paid to the injurious action of galvanism, or electricity. We know of one exception. An extensive establishment in London, well aware of the action induced by electricity, took the wise precaution, a few years since, when erecting fermenting tuns, containing 1,400 barrels each, and supported by iron columns, to have them insulated, from which they have derived great benefit. The same house, sensible of the importance of observing the atmospheric changes, has kept a meteorological journal for the last ten years; the observations being made three times a day—at four o'clock A.M., at nine

o'clock A.M., and at three o'clock P.M. In order to prevent the electric action on the fermentations of beer or wash, the vessels should be thoroughly insulated, and the mains, or pipes, leading to or from these vessels, should be thoroughly disconnected from them, by means of union screws, or perhaps still better, by a short hose of leather, or caoutchouc, or Indian rubber. By these simple means, the galvanic circle, otherwise formed by the metal pipes and cocks, &c. employed in removing the worts, refrigerating, or cleansing, will be broken, and a uniform, regular, and healthy fermentation, be produced. I have been inclined to think, that the great difference in the quality of wines which we read of, produced from vineyards within a short distance of each other, may as often be traced to some electrical action, caused by a bad arrangement of the fermenting vessels, as to any difference in the soil or quality of the grapes. I hope these few observations, brief as they are, will draw the attention of men of science, and also of the manufacturer, to the subject, believing it one of primary importance in this branch of the chemical arts."

Mr. Faraday and Dr. T. Thomson considered the above suggestions particularly worthy of the attention of brewers and distillers.

We know that thunder-storms are caused by the different electric conditions of the earth and atmosphere. Fermenting tuns may be so situated, as to

be affected by these different electric conditions. We know that milk in some dairies is soured and injured by atmospheric electricity, while in others differently arranged, no such effect is produced. Most brewers will admit, that beer of the same brewing, when sent out in casks, will remain sound in the cellars of some of their customers, while in others it will become acid.

A shock of electricity sent through any beer will speedily cause it to become sour.

Fermenting tuns, when imbedded in the earth, are very liable to be affected by the various conditions of atmospheric electricity.

Many instances of injury, from such causes, have come under the author's observation, from which he selects the following :

In the summer of 1828, being called into a town in Surrey to superintend some brewings, he found that the fermenting tuns were imbedded in the earth, and at once expressed his disapprobation of this mode of placing them, and at the same time his doubts of any certainty of success, until the tuns were differently situated. No change of position could, at that time, be made. The fermentations, however, although by no means right, went on indifferently well for several brewings. But in a brewing, which was made on the 2nd of July, the fermentation next day (the 3rd) became quite stationary, with regard both to temperature and attenu-

ation: and although all the usual means were resorted to, none had the desired effect of forwarding the process. Having previously seen the same cessation of fermentation in an electrically excited state of the atmosphere, he had no doubt but that the extraordinary results proceeded from electric action, and stated his opinion to that effect to the brewer and others, at the same time predicting that we should very soon have a thunder-storm. As it is generally considered hurtful to let beer remain in the gyle-tun in a state of total inactivity, it was immediately cleansed by pumping it from the gyle-tun, into casks placed upon wooden stillions about eighteen inches high, where it soon began to throw out its yeast very well, and at the same time underwent an attenuation of 6 lbs. per Long's instrument. Early the same evening a thunder-storm came on, which was of unusual violence.

The fact of beer of the same brewing turning out so differently in one cellar from another, is too well known to require any remark. It may often be owing to the same cause as the suspension of fermentation in the imbedded gyle-tuns; for when the casks are placed directly on the ground, without wooden bearers or stillions, the beer contained in them is more liable to electrical fluctuations than when the casks are better insulated.

The next case is of a different nature, and depending upon voltaic action. In 1835 some parties

who had lately taken a small brewhouse near London, were surprised at the rapidity of their fermentations in certain stages; and also at the height to which the light yeasty or frothy heads rose at the same time. The author was applied to, and found that the gyle-tuns were lined with metal, which he then supposed to be lead, as is usual in such cases. A brewing was made for the purpose of ascertaining what was wrong. The worts, when gathered together, were 27 lbs. gravity per Long's instrument, and were originally at a temperature of 58° F. in the gyle-tun, when a moderate quantity of yeast was applied. The fermentation advanced pretty regularly until about eight o'clock next evening. It had then advanced to a temperature of 62°, having a light yeasty head, and rather unusually pungent odour; it had also attenuated 4 lbs. in gravity. At six o'clock next morning it had attained a temperature of 78°, which is very unusual in so short a period. The light yeasty head having fallen a little during the night, was again rising, presenting a bluish white appearance, which always denotes unsoundness; the gas was smotheringly pungent, and the beer had a very unusual styptic subacid flavour.

Calculating from the temperature gained (see chapter on Yeast) it should have been attenuated down to 7 lbs. It was only, however, at 14 lbs. The author concluded that the process had been

improperly interfered with, and stated his opinion to the parties concerned. He was, however, assured that nothing had been done but by himself, and that every previous process had gone on in the same way. When the beer was cleansed, the tuns were again examined, when it was found they were lined with sheet copper, and soldered at the joints with tin. There was also a brass cock for cleansing the beer: so that two or three metals were in contact with the worts. On tasting the different beers in store, they had all a styptic, subacid flavour, such as had been perceived in the gyle-tun, which had, indeed, been the great cause of complaint. By some oversight the beer was not *tested* chemically for copper or tin, which doubtless would have been discovered in the beer.

A new wooden gyle-tun being recommended, it was immediately procured and placed as directed. In this tun no further difficulty occurred, the fermentations went on regularly, and the beer turned out well.

The previous irregularity and styptic taste must, therefore, have proceeded from a portion of the metals being dissolved by the galvanic action, a necessary consequence of the mixture of metals in the gyle-tun.

In the next case which we bring forward, the gyle-tuns were old and lined with lead. The worts ran from the coolers into the tuns by a leaden pipe

introduced into the middle of the tun through the leaden lining. The tuns were also connected with a short main pipe (for cleansing the beer), by means of brass cocks and solder. The fermentation here was excessively irregular, sometimes going on very rapidly,—and ultimately arriving at what is called the “boiling” appearance, described in another part of this treatise: at other times coming almost to a stand still; and on all occasions after a certain stage of the process, acquiring an unhealthy faint odour. To prove to the parties that these irregularities arose from the mixture of metals in the gyle-tun and connected with it, two barrels of wort were taken and fermented in an open-headed butt, where the fermentation went on quite well, and without any irregularity whatever.

New gyle-tuns were at last ordered, and put up; but even then some little irregularities were perceivable, which were discovered to be owing to a different mode of conveying the worts (through pipes from the coolers to the squares) from what the author had recommended.

This having been altered, the brewings proceeded favourably, and no further irregularity in the fermentation occurred. The beer was approved of, and pronounced to be as good as any of the same gravity by two first-rate practical brewers in London. This shows what apparently trifling circumstances influence fermentation, where galvanism or electricity is concerned.

The next case we adduce differs from any of the preceding. Here there was no metal within the tuns, but brass cocks alone. There was a long leaden main pipe extending through and round the premises, in length, altogether, perhaps above 100 feet. In this main pipe there were various brass stop cocks, for different purposes. All the gyle-tuns were connected with this main by means of other pipes and brass cocks, for drawing off the beer for cleansing, thus forming a galvanic circle.

The complaint was, that the fermentations were all wild and irregular, and under no kind of control. The beer consequently was very much complained of, and invariably unsound. Two of the gyle-tuns were placed directly opposite each other, and connected as above-described with the main. When both these were charged with worts at the same time, the progress of the fermentation was certainly very extraordinary.

When fermentation had fairly commenced, and all other parts of the top were covered with the creamy froth, a circular space about eight inches in diameter, remained quite bare, directly above the discharge-cocks in both tuns. As the fermentation advanced, these were covered like the other parts.

The frothy top now rising, began to assume a variegated appearance. Directly above the discharge-cocks, that glassy-looking, bluish-white appearance, was perceptible, which always indicates

unsoundness or galvanic action. This appearance gradually extended in a circular manner, about half round the tuns, in different directions, so as to form two opposite semi-circles. Soon after, the heads rose to such a height as to run over the top of the squares, without the possibility of preventing or controlling the action. The first thing done was to cut off the communication between one of the tuns and the main pipe. This had at once the desired effect. The fermentations in this tun were regular, and perfectly under control, and the ale produced proved very good. Notwithstanding this instructive fact, it was some time before the parties could be prevailed upon to cut off the other communications in the same way. They persisted for some time in brewing their common beer in the two tuns above-mentioned, and the results were uniformly bad. Had the author's suggestions been followed, every thing might have been remedied in a few days, as was afterwards proved, by cutting off the other communications between the tuns and main pipe.

I have thus given a few instances, out of many which could be adduced, of the decided and injurious effects of electricity, whether common or voltaic, exhibited during the progress of fermentation: effects which, when well understood, may be easily obviated or corrected.

The experiments of Gay Lussac also clearly prove the important agency of electricity in the

process of fermentation. He found that wort to which yeast had been added, when placed in a vacuum, did not undergo fermentation, although all the circumstances were favourable excepting the presence of oxygen. But when an electric spark was passed through the fluid, the fermentation commenced vigorously. The effect here produced, he considered, was by the electric spark decomposing an atom of water, and thus liberating an atom of oxygen, which caused the process to begin. We do not mean to question the high authority of Gay Lussac, but his experiment does not altogether prove that the particle of oxygen produced was the cause of fermentation. It might perhaps be owing to a more general influence of the electric spark, which, in passing through the fluid, induced such chemical action of the different component parts upon each other, as were sufficient for producing fermentation.

We shall be able to prove, that after the process of fermentation has fully commenced, galvanic action will promote a much greater excitement than is desirable for the vinous fermentation; and we are also inclined to think, from the effects produced, that the acetous, instead of the vinous fermentation, is partially going on, or it might be better to say, that acidity is produced by voltaic action. M. Gay Lussac has distinctly shewn, however, that a considerable excitement is produced by the electric

spark, so as to occasion too vigorous fermentation, and we hope that very eminent chemist, by still continuing his attention to the same subject, may further enlighten us as to these results.

Having pointed out some of the errors most frequently committed in the construction of brew-houses, by the introduction of pipes consisting of various metals, (which we think has been proved to prevent the possibility of regularity in fermentation,) we shall now, in illustration of our remarks on electro-chemical action, describe a brew-house in which there is neither a pipe nor pump, and in which every operation has gone on regularly and uniformly for years ; and that also without a change of yeast.

We are inclined to believe that the locality was in a great measure the original cause of this brew-house being so constructed ; and that it was thus advantageously built, more with the intention of saving money and labour, than from any knowledge of electro-chemical agency. This brewhouse is situated at a place called Pen-y-Bryn, in the immediate neighbourhood of Llangollen, a post-town on the great road between London and Holyhead. It is placed at the bottom of a hill, on a sort of slate rock, and is supplied with water from a fine spring, on the side of the hill far above the brewhouse ; thus giving a complete command of water without pumping. Advantage has also been taken of the

sloping of the rock, so as to save all unnecessary building. There is at the top of the premises a copper placed for the purpose of boiling the water used for brewing. Under this copper, at a little distance, is the mash-tun, (commanded by this boiler,) from which the worts when ready 'are allowed to run directly into the wort copper, which is at a little distance below the mash-tun. There is no underback. The wort-copper is sufficiently high to command the coolers, from whence the worts run into the gyle-tuns through canvass hoses and wooden shoots. And directly under the gyle-tuns is the cleansing room; so that neither pipe nor pump is necessary in the whole concern, excepting a short leathern hose for cleansing.

All this has been done by cutting away parts of the rock, so as to leave sufficient declivity for the different compartments.

Mr. Berry, the proprietor of this concern, adopted our system of brewing in March 1836, when he first commenced brewing there; at which time, we expressed the highest approbation of the construction of his premises in every department, and our opinion that nothing but want of care could prevent his being successful in his operations. We here subjoin an extract from a letter received from him, dated the 8th of July, 1839:—

"MY DEAR SIR,

"I feel much obliged by the compliment you intend passing on the construction of my brewery in your coming publication, and shall be much pleased if I can in any way benefit you by proving the success of your method of fermentation, from which I have never varied. With the exception of the small quantity of yeast you brought about eighteen months ago from London, I have had no change since the first commencement here, 9th March, 1836. I am to-day brewing from the same store, and my gyle-tuns work entirely to my satisfaction. With the exception of a chance cask or two, not being sweet, I have not had a single cask returned for any fault the last two years.

(Signed) "C. C. BERRY."

Many other certificates of a similar nature can be readily furnished.

This distinctly shows that success in brewing depends, in the first place, very much on the construction of the brewhouse and utensils. When these, therefore, are properly constructed, and a correct system of brewing has been introduced and persisted in, nothing but want of attention or bad materials (such as defective malt and hops) used in brewing, can prevent unvarying regularity in the process of fermentation, followed also by unvarying uniformity in the quality of the beer.

Since our last publication it has been ascertained, that when placed in a negative vessel, worts will remain sound for a much longer time than when put into a positive vessel.

But when the gyle-tuns are in a negative state, the fermentations will go on very languidly, and occasionally become quite stationary ; while on the contrary, under a different state of electro-chemical action, they will go on violently and uncontrollably, but without the due attenuation.

THE BREWERY.

Site and Construction.

An airy unconfined situation should, if possible, always be selected for the site of a brew-house, so as to admit of a free current of air round the coolers.

In building, the boiling and mashing departments ought to be kept separate from the cooling and fermenting departments. This arrangement will prevent the steam retarding the cooling of the worts, and also from coming into contact with the fermentations, which has often an injurious effect.

If a current of steam be directed over a gyle of

beer in a vigorous state of fermentation, the head will very soon drop. If a fermenting tun be placed directly under an iron-jack or hop-back, on the boiling worts being turned into the jack-back, the head on the worts, however vigorously going on, will very soon drop.

Size of Copper.

The size of the copper or coppers and mash-tuns must be proportioned to the quantities of malt to be brewed.

Where there is but one copper it is much better that it should be too large than too small, as a large copper gives much greater facility in going on with the process, and also often enables the brewer to boil all the worts at once; thus saving both time and fuel. The copper should, therefore, contain from four to five barrels for each quarter of malt to be brewed; or say for 10 quarters, 50 barrels, and so on. By inserting a damper in the flue, say about 18 inches above the crown, any copper can be made to boil 10 barrels or less, without injury to itself. This damper being shut, and another opened higher up, the copper becomes serviceable to its full extent. We have seen a copper containing only 42 barrels for mashing 18 or 20 quarters of malt: this caused such delay in the process, as was often very injurious. There was no occasion to brew more than eight or nine quarters at a time, which could be done

well and safely; but it was with the greatest difficulty that the proprietors were persuaded to adopt that alteration, and it is doubtful if they altogether now adopt it.

Size of Mash-Tun.

The mash-tun should contain nearly four barrels for every quarter of malt to be brewed. This enables us to turn on a sufficient quantity of liquor for making a large extract in the first mash, which will be found the most beneficial mode of brewing every kind of beer. We do not, however, mean that a large quantity of liquor should be turned on at first.—*See Mashing.*

The under-back must be proportioned to the mash-tun. In some newly constructed brew-houses there are no under-backs, which is a great improvement. The liquor-boiler and mash-tun are placed high enough to command the wort-copper. The worts then run directly from the mash-tun into the copper, (*see* page 44.) It is certainly the best construction that can be adopted, as it not only saves time and labour, but also prevents the possibility of the worts getting tainted between the mash-tun and copper; which sometimes happens by lying too long in the under-back.

Coolers.

Where there are no refrigerators, the coolers

should be spacious, and so constructed as that the worts may be run from the one into the other, which very much facilitates cooling; and where there are no artificial means of cooling, the coolers should be of such dimensions as to prevent the necessity of the worts being at an average more than two inches deep; or two and a-half inches at the utmost. Blowers or fans are very useful, as they not only facilitate the cooling of the worts, by sweeping off the fob or froth, thus allowing a free radiation of caloric, but also by keeping the worts in constant motion, they assist in preventing their becoming tainted. Refrigerators are now very much used. We have lately, however, been inclined to think, that when improperly constructed, they sometimes occasion a little faintness in the worts by galvanic action, although the injury may perhaps as frequently arise from want of cleanliness. Our opinion, however, on this subject, will be more fully expressed under the articles Refrigerators and Regulators.

Fermenting Tuns.

The fermenting or gyle-tuns should be of sufficient dimensions to contain the worts, and leave at least six inches of the depth unoccupied: they must also have on the top a sufficiency of what is called *lubber boarding* or frame work, for the rise of the head during fermentation. After what has

been said upon electro-chemical action, it is almost unnecessary to add how the tuns should be placed; they should of course be isolated as much as possible, and in no way connected with the earth, either by pipes or otherwise. If main pipes must be had for cleansing, the gyle-tuns should be detached from them during the progress of fermentation. When ready for cleansing, they may again be connected by union screws and pipes. Long chains of pipes connecting different vessels together, must be injurious in every case, as they will be found to produce electro-chemical action.

The chains of pipes now so frequently employed in cleansing, for the purpose of saving labour and waste of beer, although not so injurious as during fermentation in the gyle-tuns, may nevertheless be found prejudicial to a certain extent. The old mode, therefore, of cleansing with leather hoses (or pipes), although more troublesome, will be found safer, as far at least as regards perfection in beer.

Several plans might be suggested of getting through the process of cleansing as quickly and with as little waste as by long chains of pipes.

SACCHAROMETER.

The late Mr. Richardson, of Hull, was the inventor of an instrument for ascertaining on scientific principles, the real value of malt. Before his time, many rude means had been resorted to for that purpose. Equal quantities, for instance, of wort and water were weighed against each other, but this method was found to be both troublesome and uncertain, and was only practised by very few. Since his time, various instruments have been introduced for the same purpose; but for real utility in practice, it has not as yet been excelled by any; and having only one pound gravity on the stem, fewer mistakes can occur than when there are 10 or 20 lbs. in the same space. These instruments are still manufactured and sold by Mr. Joseph Long, Hydrometer-maker, &c., 20, Little Tower Street, London. For his scientific knowledge, and accuracy in all matters of this kind, we can vouch. The Saccharometer sanctioned by government, is that constructed by Mr. Bates, which shews the specific gravity of the worts, as compared with water at unity, or 1000; thus progressing to 1020, 40, 60, 80, to 1140, which is quite enough for the specific gravity of worts, for beer of every description. Richardson's instrument shows the increase of weight of the worts according to the actual number of pounds of saccharine matter, held in solution by the

said worts. For instance, if 50 lbs. specific gravity by Bates's or Allan's instruments were held in solution by the worts, thirty pounds of water would be displaced. Hence Bates's or Allan's instruments would shew 50 lbs. per barrel, while Richardson's would shew about 18·3; the difference being as 1 to 2·78.

Long has invented an instrument with only one weight; one side of the stem without any weight, indicating to the extent of 25 or 26 lbs. gravity; the other with the weight, going to the extent of 50 or 52 lbs. gravity. We would, however, recommend the instruments made by him on the late Mr. Richardson's principle, as being much less liable to error than those having so many pounds indicated on one stem. The indications, however, of any Saccharometer, if accurate, may be easily compared and reduced to the scale of others by recollecting that the saccharometer indicating specific gravity per barrel, is founded on the fact that a barrel of water at 62° F. weighs 360 lbs., while the saccharometer of Allan or Bates, indicating specific gravity, has 1000 for its unit. Dividing 1000 by 360, we obtain the factor 2·78, near enough at least for practical purposes. The rule, therefore, in comparing the indications of instruments marking specific gravity to lbs. per barrel, is simply to divide the gravity shewn by 2·78, and the lbs. gravity by Long's saccharometer; or to convert Long's gravity to the

specific gravity of Allan or Bates, multiply by 2·78. Richardson's instrument, as made by Long and other accurate makers, is sufficiently delicate for all ordinary purposes ; although some may prefer an instrument indicating *specific gravity*, as Allan's of Edinburgh, the invention of Professor Thomson of Glasgow College, and which is generally used by the Scotch ale brewers. The range of Allan's or Bates's, being 2·5 times at least, that of a saccharometer where minute attention in noting the progress of the *attenuation* is required, the *specific gravity scale* may be adopted. (See in Appendix some further remarks on an erroneous mode of taking gravities in Ireland.)

MASHING.

When the liquor for the first mash is turned on the malt at too high a temperature, instead of producing an extract, it occasions a coagulation, forming a sort of thin paste, like thin batter, or starch when preparing for stiffening linen. This we call setting the goods, and little or no worts will be discharged.

This evil, although it never can be thoroughly cured, may sometimes be partially rectified, by

sprinkling over the mash a quantity of colder, or even of cold liquor, so as to reduce the temperature. Since thermometers have been so generally introduced, setting the goods has not occurred so frequently. It is, however, of the utmost importance to take the first liquors at the proper temperatures, and for that purpose the following process will be found infallible.

Further Remarks on Mashing.

Since our first writing on this subject, a different, and, we are inclined to think, a more certain mode has been adopted to secure the proper temperature for making the best extract in the first mash ; after which, as before stated, particular temperatures may be considered of very little importance.

Best Temperatures.

We now find that at the temperature of about 168° to 170° Fahrenheit, the diastase of the malt acts most powerfully in saccharizing the starch contained in the malted or unmalted corn. If, therefore, we do not go above that temperature, we run no risk of setting the goods, let the temperature of the malt in the tun be what it may. What we have, therefore, to do, is to make in the first place, as stiff a mash as possible, with liquor at that temperature, that is, of 168° or 170°; we are thus certain that some part of the diastase must be acting

upon the starch, thus preparing the whole mash for the extract being speedily formed by the after process. With powerful machinery, about one barrel and a half of liquor per quarter will be found sufficient for this first part of the process. Where oars, however, must be used, we would recommend that the liquor should, in the first place, be put into the tun, and brought to its proper temperature, of about 170° or some degrees lower. The malt should then be added, sack by sack, as quickly as possible, but at the same time taking care that the previous sack of malt be thoroughly mixed and wetted by the oars and rakes before any addition is made. If the mash becomes too thick for working, a little liquor may be added at any time, so as to make the mash manageable.

Having thus prepared the malt in the tun in the best manner for the extract being speedily performed, we must now turn on, from below the goods, liquor at a temperature of 185° to 195° , gradually increasing in temperature; letting it run, however, at first very slowly, so as to bring up the heat gradually, at the same time mashing during the whole process. In a very short time a complete change will be observed in the appearance of the mash. The extract, which before had a milky white appearance, will almost instantaneously become more transparent, and a fine thick frothy head will appear all over the tun. The extract is then thoroughly

formed, and the quantity of liquor may be then proportioned to the quality of the intended beer: say for beer of very high gravities, not more in the whole than two barrels and a-half per quarter, but for beer of lower gravities, perhaps, even three barrels per quarter may be found most advantageous.

Having thus made sure of a proper extract, there can be no advantage in allowing the mash to stand very long before running off the worts. An hour and a-half at the utmost is quite enough. In imperfectly made malts, that is, malt not sufficiently *grown* on the floors, as shown by the spires not being well up the backs, it may be advisable to grind such *lower* or finer. It may be better also to commence mashing at a lower temperature of not less than 10° , say 160° , taking care, however, to bring up the heat before leaving off mashing, so as that the tap or worts may run off the tun at a heat of from 148° to 152° as usual.

No Time to be lost.

The great desideratum now is, to get through the remainder of the process as quickly as possible, so as to prevent the possibility of any unsoundness being acquired, by the worts lying too long anywhere before being got into the copper.

Having, we trust, sufficiently explained what we consider a correct mode of making the extract, we do not intend here to go on further with the process,

as that can be easily learned by referring to any of the practical brewing tables at the end of this treatise.

As before stated, all we can further do is to wash out from the malt, in the best way we can, whatever extracts may be retained after running off the first tap. There are some who by turning over large quantities of water at very high temperatures, for the raw wort, think, and can, perhaps, show a little more gravity per quarter, as indicated by the saccharometer; but this additional gravity is not saccharine, but mucilage, or some other impurity, which they would be much better without.

TAPS.

Of the produce of Taps, according to the number of Barrels turned on the Malt.

Many erroneous accounts have been given as to the quantity of water, or more properly of wort, retained by the malt, after draining off the first mash: as this may be considered a point of some importance to young brewers, as a check or guide for ascertaining that no mistakes have been made in turning on the different quantities of liquor, we shall

here insert our own observations on the subject. The results, however, will vary a little, according to the depth of the malt in the mash-tun, the greater depth producing more extract, and *vice versa*.

When the first mash is drained off, fine malts will retain about 4 gallons per bushel, or 32 gallons per quarter; inferior malts will retain $4\frac{1}{2}$ gallons per bushel, or 36 gallons per quarter, more or less, according to quality, affording a sure guide to ascertain the quantities of liquor which have been used in mashing.

Thus, if brewing 10 quarters of malt we mash with 20 barrels, we should find in the under-back or copper from 10 to 11 barrels, or perhaps, sometimes, a few gallons more of wort, according to the quality of the malt, and its depth in the mash-tun; whatever additional quantity of liquor may be turned on during the first mash, we should find that additional quantity in the worts when collected.

In the after mashings we generally find that the malt will yield a little more than the quantity turned on, which may be easily accounted for by the decrease in the bulk of the malt after every subsequent mashing.

OF BOILING.

Various opinions exist as to the boiling of worts. Some think that long boiling, particularly of the second worts, tends to make the beer continue sound. We are not, however, aware of any preservative quality imparted by long boiling; but on the contrary, many injurious effects may be produced by over-boiling, some of which shall be afterwards considered. Long boiling, with free evaporation, undoubtedly adds to the strength of the worts, in proportion to the extent of the evaporation, and thus enables us to make a greater extract from the malt than we could otherwise do, particularly in brewing very strong beers. But where a raw or return wort is taken for next brewing, little or no advantage can be derived therefrom. Mr. Morewood says that at Louvain, in Belgium, which is rather celebrated for its beer, a portion of quick lime is thrown into the worts when boiling,—a very good thing—but soda would be preferable.—*Morewood's Inebriating Liquors*, page 257.

An erroneous opinion often prevails, that a portion of the saccharine matter of the worts is evaporated along with the steam in boiling. This opinion may have arisen from a mistake in calculating the difference of the extract as shown by the taps, between these taps, and the actual gravity of

the boiled worts in the gyle-tun—or the difference, as some call it, between the raw and boiled gravities. An erroneous method of calculating the extract per quarter is followed by some brewers, who value the gravity of the worts as they flow from the mash-tun, instead of taking the gravity of the worts from the coolers as they go into the fermenting tun; thus showing a disparity of from 10 to even 20 per cent. more than the malt actually produces. We shall, however, be able to show, when we afterwards treat of extracts, that both gravities, if properly taken, must be precisely the same, only deducting for the quantity retained by the hops in the different boilings, which is afterwards transferred from one wort to the other in regular progression, so as ultimately to leave in the hops only a very trifling portion of the extract.

There is also a difference of opinion as to the use of open and dome coppers. For fine pale ale, there can be very little doubt that open coppers are preferable, although dome-coppers, (where a free evaporation of steam is allowed without *much* pressure) can do little harm. It is to be recollected, however, that in proportion to the perpendicular column of worts in the copper, and also to their greater specific gravity, charring will take place. Where, however, a considerable weight must be raised before any steam can escape, as in steam-engine boilers, considerable injury may arise, not

only in the boiling of ale worts, but also of porter or stout worts ; arising from the following causes.

In the first place, owing to the high pressure of steam, which must necessarily take place before the weight can be raised to allow of its escape, the evaporation of the worts in boiling is so trifling as to prevent the necessary increase of gravity, so as to enable the brewer to turn the proper quantity of liquor over his malt in the mash-tun, for producing the best extracts, particularly for beers of high gravities.

2. The weight to be raised before any escape of steam can take place, and the consequent high pressure, must necessarily raise the temperature of the worts in the copper far above the boiling point. This must, therefore, to a certain extent, alter the component parts of the worts, by charring or carbonising them. That this effect is produced, is sufficiently proved, not only by the brick-red colour of the worts when coming out of the copper, (although brewed from the palest malt,) but also by the beer, which can never have that fine pale or amber colour, so highly desirable for all sorts of ale.

3. The above-mentioned high temperature must also be to a certain extent injurious to brown beer, as it extracts from the hops an astringent bitter, by no means palatable, and to many highly disagreeable. This may not in stout or porter be very perceptible, but in fine ales it is particularly obvious.

Of Charring the Worts.

It has also been observed, that when the worts are thus charred, the fermentations are very much inclined to get fretful at certain stages, thus endangering the quality of the beer. We have ourselves lately seen this effect produced, but immediately afterwards remedied by withdrawing the pressure. We are not at present prepared to say what may be the chemical causes of the above-mentioned fretful fermentations: perhaps the charring of the worts may so alter the nature of their component parts as to produce this effect.

But fermentations, generally speaking, are so apt to be influenced, by what, to many, would appear such trifling or even improbable causes, that they who have had an opportunity of seeing and tracing all their different anomalies, in their various stages, can alone find out and apply the necessary remedies.

Long or Short Boiling.

It must now be apparent that we are not advocates for long boiling, excepting as above stated, for the purpose of giving strength to the wort by evaporation. Long boiling can only be necessary when no raw wort is taken, to enable us to turn a greater quantity of liquor over the malt for the purpose of extract. As, however, a considerable portion of this additional liquor must be evaporated

from the copper for the purpose of acquiring strength, perhaps the additional expense of coals and wear and tear may counterbalance any profit, which we may think we have derived from the little additional extract, we have thus gained from the malt.

We have had occasion to brew a good deal of beer for the Indian market, and we never on any occasion boiled the first worts more than one hour, or the second worts more than an hour and a-half. In the Appendix will be found the reports received from Calcutta respecting some of it, which will show that notwithstanding the shortness of the boilings, the beer turned out well.

On the tendency of Worts to get tainted in the Coolers; its Causes and Preventives.

Worts are much more liable to get tainted in the coolers, when the weather is thick and hazy, than when it is clear and windy. The cause of this, however, so far as we know, has not as yet been scientifically accounted for. There can be no doubt, however, that it proceeds from the steam, which, instead of rising and being dissipated as in windy weather, becomes condensed in hazy weather, and by then falling on the worts in a liquid state, it produces acidity, or *foxyness*, as it is technically called.

It has been already stated, that condensed steam

is injurious, in every stage of the process of brewing, and particularly so in the cooling of the worts. Steam, as has been lately discovered, under certain circumstances, is perhaps the most powerful positive electric yet known, and therefore by falling on the worts on the coolers in a condensed state, may produce acidity.

Our opinion is, that little good can be effected by cooling the worts much below the temperature of the atmosphere at the time, (in winter we must, of course, watch to prevent their getting too low,) unless, as in Bavaria, the tun-rooms can also be kept at an equally low temperature. The reason of this is obvious; if the temperature of the tun-room be the same as the atmosphere, the worts will also rise to that temperature, without gaining a regular progressive attenuation, unless checked by regulators, which we would rather dispense with at all times if possible.—*See article, Regulators.*

Now, as it is the steam hanging on the worts which prevents their cooling, if that can be blown away or dissipated, they will soon arrive at a sufficiently low temperature, perhaps a degree or two below that of the atmosphere. Fans or blowers will do this effectually, and also keep the worts in a state of constant motion, which is also a great preservative; and if a portion of the hop dreg has been allowed to pass over along with them into the coolers, there will then be but little danger of their

becoming tainted in cooling at any time.—*See article on Hop Dreg.*

It was believed by many brewers, that worts ought never to be stirred on the coolers at all ; but as this old and erroneous opinion appears now to be pretty nearly abandoned, it is needless to say any thing more on the subject.

We are told that some brewers have now acquired such faith in refrigerators, as to think that they may dispense with coolers almost entirely. We strongly fear, however, that before the end of the first summer, they will have reason to repent of this over confidence, and lose more by the deterioration of their beer than the first cost of new coolers.—*See article on Refrigerators.*

CALCULATING LENGTHS AND GRAVITIES.

FROM the erroneous mode generally practised of calculating the gravities of the taps or raw worts, as they are generally termed, a very great discrepancy appears betwixt what is called the raw and boiled gravity, or, in other words, the gravities shown

by the taps, and the actual or real gravities in the gyle-tun.

It is now an ascertained fact, that little or no saccharine matter evaporates with the steam in boiling, and consequently the gravities of the taps, if properly taken, ought exactly to coincide with the gravities in the gyle-tun, making allowance only for what may be retained by the hops in the last wort.

We all know that the gravities of the taps, or worts running from the mash-tun, vary considerably, according to the times at which the samples may be taken; thus leading to erroneous conclusions. The only accurate mode, therefore, of calculating the gravities of the unboiled worts, must be by taking samples from the under-back after being thoroughly roused, or better, from the copper when the worts are therein collected, and after about ten minutes' boiling.

The common practice is even then to calculate the gravity as when reduced to a temperature of 60° , without making any deduction for the decrease in quantity necessary to reduce the worts to that temperature, by evaporation and condensation. We thus calculate a gravity (taking in what is retained by the hops) of at least ten per cent. more than we actually have: making all the difference between the (so denominated) raw and boiled gravities.

The Excise, when taking the dip of hot worts in the coolers, always allowed ten per cent. for eva-

puration and condensation. The same allowance should be made when taking hot worts in the copper—when we shall find that the raw and boiled gravities will very nearly correspond.

In making calculations for regulating the gravities per barrel of the different beers to be brewed, it will generally be found that by deducting ten per cent. from the apparent gravity of the taps, as shown by the instrument at a temperature of 60°, we shall come very near the truth, at least near enough for practice. Should extra quantities of hops be used, allowance must be made accordingly. This, however, is only for the first worts. Every 60 lbs. weight of hops retains nearly a barrel of worts of the same gravity as those turned out of the copper. For the second worts, therefore, after deducting the ten per cent., add the gravity of one barrel of the first worts for every 60 lbs. of hops used in the first boiling. This in the second boiling will be replaced by nearly an equal quantity of worts, of the same gravity as turned out of the copper, which, in making the calculation, is to be deducted from the aggregate of the second worts, and so on with a third wort if necessary.

Having thus made accurate calculations of the actual number of pounds gravity we have in the gyle-tun, the aggregate amount of pounds gravity is to be divided by the number of pounds gravity per barrel the beer is intended to be made; the quotient

is the number of barrels at said gravity, which can be produced. All we have now to do is to turn out of the copper such a number of barrels as will make up our calculated quantity in the gyle-tun. The only difference that can then arise must proceed from the difference of evaporation from the wort in the coolers, which will be found to vary more or less according to the state of the atmosphere. Our beer, therefore, must be a little stronger or weaker accordingly; but the aggregate gravity will be found to correspond very nearly with the calculation made from the unboiled worts; and the brewer by a little attention, will soon be enabled to judge of the quantities to be turned out of the copper, so as to correspond with the evaporation which he may expect.

RAW OR RETURN WORTS.

RAW or return worts are now universally used in all great brewing establishments. It is, however, a very questionable point, whether the apparent extra gravity derived from the said raw worts, is of much value, or even worth taking. In brewing ale or any description of beer of very high specific gravity, raw

worts cannot well be dispensed with, as we should not get the proper extract from the malt, so as to throw it into the beer, without turning over in the mash-tun a much greater quantity of liquor than is wanted for the production of beers of that gravity; but wherever we have an opportunity of turning over the malt about six barrels per quarter, there can be little doubt but that the whole gravity worth having can be obtained without having recourse to a raw wort in the mash-tun. The sparging machine bringing off the worts at not above one lb. gravity, renders a return wort a matter of very inferior consequence: as, however, some valuable extract may remain in the hops, a sufficient quantity of liquor may be turned over them to displace it. We have known brewers so anxious to make apparently very high gravities from their malt, as even to turn over to the extent of three and four barrels per quarter, after having already turned over at least six barrels per quarter.

It may be observed, however, that the beer brewed from these long raw worts, not only uniformly tasted poor, but was very much inclined to get forward or acid. We therefore strongly recommend to brewers to be satisfied with the extracts usually obtained, rather than to run the risk of acidity, by getting mucilage or other extraneous matter from the malt: which, however much it may

buoy up the instrument, adds nothing to the quality of the beer.

Two barrels per quarter of raw wort are decidedly as much as ever ought to be attempted, and more will do harm rather than good.

It is a disputed point whether hot or cold liquor should be applied in taking the raw worts. The point is of very little importance; but the temperature of the liquor should never exceed 160° or 170° .

An opinion prevails that the raw wort should never be turned over in the first mash next day, but be reserved for the subsequent mashes. The sooner the raw wort can be used the less risk we run of unsoundness, and any one, upon reflection, will see that turning all the raw wort over in the first mash is the surest mode of getting the soundest and best extract. When turned all over in the first mash, much about the additional gravity, contained in the raw wort, will be shown in the tap; and what remains in the grains will be much better washed out by hot liquor alone, than when it is mixed with raw wort.

REFRIGERATORS.

THE use of refrigerators for cooling the worts has now become very prevalent. It is, however, rather a doubtful point, whether an indiscriminate use of them does not do more harm than good. In the refrigerators first constructed the worts were passed through the pipes, and the cold water was applied to the outside. These, from the difficulty of cleaning and other causes, were found to be injurious, and are now succeeded by others in which the cold water runs through the pipes, and the worts are on the outside.

The more simply refrigerators can be constructed the better: they ought also to be made of one metal only, and that unconnected with other metals. We thus run less risk of any electro-chemical agency, which should always be guarded against, as much as possible, in every department of the brewery. Even with the best constructed refrigerators, it will be found that when the worts are sent through them at high temperatures, they will appear of a greyish or whey colour when running into the square. This always denotes unsoundness to a certain extent, or that some change has taken place in the nature of the worts, which will be found prejudicial in as far as regards a regular

fermentation. However desirable, therefore, refrigerators may be for saving time, we are inclined to think that fans or blowers are by much the safer instruments for cooling worts.

Worts when kept in a constant state of agitation in the coolers, are much less liable to become tainted than when allowed to remain stationary : fans or blowers keep them constantly in agitation, and when a proper quantity of hop-dreg is passed over into the coolers along with the worts, little danger need be apprehended.

Many brewers make it an invariable rule, both in summer and winter, to commence brewing at a very early hour in the morning. A little reflection, however, will convince them that in hot weather, it is much better to commence at a much later period of the day ; by so doing they will have the advantage of night for cooling their worts, and with the assistance of fans or blowers, they can at all events, with few exceptions, get their worts to a temperature of 60° before letting them run into the gyle-tun. This temperature, in hot weather, is as low as it would be desirable to go, unless the tun rooms can at all times be kept considerably under the temperature of the atmosphere.

Fans or blowers, therefore, may be considered, for the reasons above stated, preferable to the best refrigerators.

REGULATORS FOR THE TUNS.

It is, no doubt, a very desirable object to have the means of regulating and keeping in check the temperatures of the worts during fermentation ; but if for that purpose we employ chains of pipes fixed in the gyle-tuns, consisting of different metals joined with each other, it is liable to the same objections with regard to galvanic action as when such pipes are otherwise connected with the tuns, and will generally be found to be attended with effects nearly as injurious.

Moveable regulators are the best ; they can be applied or removed at pleasure. In winter or cold weather, regulators are very seldom necessary, and may then be altogether withdrawn from the gyle-tuns, thus removing the possibility of any voltaic action from a mixture of metals. The regulators which we recommend are very simple, and may be made at a very trifling expence.

Pipes consisting of one metal only, and of three or four inches diameter, should be formed into a rectangular or circular vessel. This vessel must of course be water-tight, and strong enough to resist any pressure which may occur. In one of the sides of this vessel two openings about one inch and a half or two inches in diameter, must be made about

ten inches apart, and these fitted with screw-joints, to which flexible water-tight pipes may be attached, the one for admitting the cold water, the other for its discharge anywhere over the top of the square. This vessel, which in size must be proportioned to the gyle-tun, may be suspended from any beam above the gyle-tun, by means of a rope and pulley, so as to be let down into the worts, or withdrawn at pleasure. These will be found to answer the purpose intended as well as the most expensive instruments now in use, or perhaps even better. These regulators should only be allowed to descend a few inches into the body of the worts. We all know that liquids, generally speaking, as they cool, become specifically heavier, and thus the portions first cooled on the surface will sink down, while those which are warmer, and of course specifically lighter, will rise up to supply their place.

If worts be cooled down too rapidly in the fermenting back, the fermentation will be checked, and it is sometimes found difficult to restore its vigour. By the above method, the process of checking the temperature is carried on much more gradually and equally, and without any risk of checking the fermentation. The worts also, are at the same time all kept in motion, from the rising of the warmer and sinking of the cooler parts, which is also advantageous and perhaps better than rousing. Regulators when placed near the bottom of fermenting

tuns, do very little more, for a long time, than cool the worts at their own level, and even then not equally, unless the whole be kept in a constant state of agitation by means of rousing. Regulators, however, should never be used, so as to cool down the worts during fermentation, but should be so adjusted as to permit a gradual increase of temperature.

OF YEAST.

To keep yeast in proper working trim, is a matter of as great importance as any connected with the brewery. That this can be always done, there is not the slightest doubt; and those who assert the contrary, only betray their ignorance. We could name brewers who have had no change of yeast for years, (unless when making a long stop,) and their fermentations have uniformly gone on successfully.

Where fretful and unsound fermentations are going on, the yeast will no doubt also become fretful and unsound. But where the fermentations are sound and healthy, the yeast will be the same, if the proper precautions be taken to keep it so. (See Fermentation—On the Causes of Unsoundness.)

How often do we find changes of yeast producing more harm than good, when procured from unhealthy or unsound stocks. If, then, the proper precautions be taken to avoid unsoundness in the worts, there is little doubt but the yeast will go on, doing its work regularly, and no change will be found necessary, unless from a long stoppage of the work.

As yeast, however, is apt to get stale when too long kept, frequent brewings are necessary to prevent its doing so. In summer particularly, the yeast cannot be kept in proper working trim, with fewer than two brewings a week ; if more often, the better.

Best Mode of Preserving Yeast.

Yeast, when taken out of the stillions and thrown into tubs or reservoirs, begins to work and fret, thereby expending its strength, and thus becomes unfit for carrying on a healthy and vigorous fermentation in the fluid to which it may be added. Pitching yeast should, therefore, be allowed to remain in the stillions, with a portion of the drawings, until wanted for use : the drawings should then be removed, and the yeast taken up. In the country, where sometimes it is difficult to procure a fresh store of yeast, when required, the best mode of preservation, is to place the yeast when taken up, in the coolest part of the premises, and pour over it the coldest water which can be procured. The water

should occasionally be poured off and renewed. If ice can be obtained it is better than water. We generally find that yeast about the second or third day after cleansing is in its best working trim.

Quantities to be used.

It is a very generally received opinion that the stronger the worts, the less yeast is necessary. We cannot, however, subscribe to this opinion, but on the contrary must contend, that if an artificial ferment be at all necessary, the quantity should be proportional to the work it has to do; or in other words, in proportion to the saccharine matter to be attenuated. A smaller quantity might perhaps ultimately have the desired effect, as we see in very long fermentations, but this is leaving in some degree to chance, what may be effected with certainty, in a much shorter time, by a different, and certainly a better process. All sorts of beer, both ale and porter, may be produced equally as good, or perhaps better, by comparatively shorter fermentations, as by the longest now in use: and they will always be found to retain their vinosity and soundness much longer than the others.

The quantities of yeast to be used, however, must necessarily vary according to circumstances. When the worts are got together in the gyle-tun at high temperatures, such as 65° to 70° , less yeast will be necessary than when got together at temperatures

which are lower, say from 53° to 60° . If the proper quantity of yeast be applied to sound worts, we generally find that for every degree of temperature gained, the worts will attenuate one pound in gravity by Long's instrument, or 2.78 by Allan's and Bates' instruments; the quantities of yeast to be applied should therefore be so regulated as to preserve this uniformity, which is a sure guide to work by. This rule will not apply, however, where long fermentations are practised.

Many brewers conceive, that by long fermentations, their beer retains more fulness on the palate than with a shorter process. We entirely differ from them, however, on that subject, and maintain that when worts are kept in the gyle-tuns ten to fourteen days or more, the fermentations are much more liable to suffer injury from the atmospherical or other fluctuations which may take place during that period, than can possibly be the case in a process of from forty to seventy hours, or even sometimes shorter.

It will always be found also, that beers having undergone a healthy and not too vigorous fermentation, will acquire fulness from age; while on the contrary, those undergoing a long fermentation lose their fulness, and very often become sour.

Many brewers are in the practice of using yeast by measure. This is a very uncertain mode of procedure, as yeast will vary in weight many pounds

per gallon. The surest and best mode of applying yeast is by weight, and when we are not thoroughly acquainted with its quality, it should always be mixed with a small portion of worts at a temperature of from 80° to 90° ; and should be seen rising in whatever vessel it may have been mixed, before it is added to the worts in the fermenting tun.

When worts are got together in the gyle-tun at a temperature under 60° F., about 1 lb. of yeast to 10 lbs. gravity per Long's instrument, will be found to produce a loss of 1 lb. in attenuation, for every degree gained in heat. This is a good working rule. When the fermentation (from unsoundness in the worts or other causes) does not go on regularly, the beer is apt to get yeast-bitten; and the quantity of yeast used, is blamed as the cause. This evil, however, more frequently arises from too little yeast than from too much. It is impossible to describe by writing, the different anomalous appearances which take place in fermentation, and therefore equally impossible to say what should be done under certain circumstances, unless by personal inspection and examination; when the causes of the different anomalies which take place must be traced, and where unfavourable, rectified, before any permanent improvement can be expected.

Fermentation an Act of Vegetation.

M. Turpin has lately published his observations upon certain phenomena, which he considers sufficient to show, that the act of fermentation concerning which chemists have been so much embarrassed, is owing to the rapid development of infusorial plants. He states that all yeast, of whatever description, derives its origin from the separation from organic tissue, whether animal or vegetable, of special particles of extreme minuteness, which particles, after a certain time, rise to the surface of the fluids in which they are immersed, and there germinate. Their germination is caused by a certain amount of heat, and by contact with atmospheric air. The carbonic acid obtained by fermentation is ascribed to the infusorial plants. M. Turpin considers the act of adding yeast to liquids, when fermentation is languid, equivalent to sowing millions of seeds in a favourable soil. He calls the yeast plant of beer *Torula cerevisiæ*; he considers each infusion to have its peculiar plant, and he names the whole race of such beings *Levurians*. No doubt the yeast of beer consists of minute molecular matter, the particles of which are globular, and that those particles produce from their sides, other particles like themselves, which eventually separate from the parent, but we do not know that they are *therefore* plants.

Before the experiments of Mr. Brand, alcohol was by many supposed to be a product of distillation, and not of fermentation. He has, however, satisfactorily proved its existence in the fermented wash, by producing it already formed from that fluid without distillation.

Animalculæ in Yeast.

Other chemists have ventured to declare, that they have discovered living animalculæ in yeast. I here insert Professor Liebig's opinion upon these subjects.

"The fermentation of sugar," says Professor Liebig, "in contact with yeast, is quite distinct from that of a vegetable juice, or of wort of malt; in the first case, the yeast disappears with the sugar, whilst in the second instance, *it is formed* during the metamorphosis which the sugar undergoes.

"The form and the nature of these insoluble precipitates has suggested to several physiologists very singular views with regard to the nature of vegetation. When yeast of beer, or of wine diluted with water, is examined under the microscope, flattened and diaphanous globules are detected, which are frequently united in groupes, and present an appearance of vegetation; others possess the aspect of certain infusoria.

"It would certainly be a very extraordinary phenomenon, if gluten and albumen, which have never been observed in the crystalline state, could assume

a geometrical form in the process of the fermentation of wort of malt and vegetable juices. But this does not take place ; these substances, on the contrary, separate in the same manner as all those which do not present a crystalline texture in the form of globules, swimming separately, or attached to each other.

“The appearance which they assume, in this instance, has induced certain philosophers to believe that they saw in yeast living organized beings, plants or animalcules, which, for food, assimilate the elements of sugar, and restore it as excretions, in the form of carbonic acid or alcohol. In this manner they explain the decomposition of sugar, and the augmentation of the mass of yeast in the fermentation of malt liquor.

“But this hypothesis destroys itself. In a pure aqueous solution of sugar, the so-called seed disappeared with the plants during fermentation ; fermentation takes place, the sugar is decomposed at the same time as the yeast, but no appearance of the production and reproduction of the seed of plants and animals, which these philosophers recognise as the agents of the phenomenon, is exhibited.”—
(*Annales de Chimie*, lxxi. 187.)

*Whether frequent changes of Yeast are necessary
or not in the Brewery.*

When brewers get out of trim, (technically so

called) or in plainer language, into irregular fermentations, they immediately resort to changes of yeast as the only remedy to put themselves again to rights; such changes, however, are often more detrimental than useful. These irregularities, nine times out of ten, proceed either from tainted worts or atmospherical fluctuations, instead of any failure in the yeast. They cannot, therefore, be immediately remedied, unless by a better process of brewing, or a favourable change of electrical condition.

It often happens that the fermentation takes a favourable turn of this nature before a change of yeast can be had. Notwithstanding this, as effects are often attributed to wrong causes, particularly in the brewery, should the new yeast be used and any improvement follow, it is unhesitatingly ascribed by the brewer to the change, although his own yeast from a former brewing, under similar circumstances, might have acted equally well, or even better. It can even be easily proved that almost any yeast, under proper management, and all other circumstances at the same time favourable, may be brought into the best working trim in the course of two brewings; what use then for changes, unless from a total want of yeast by long cessations from brewing.

In combating this argument, we have been met by the assertion that changes of yeast in brewing are equally necessary as changes of seed for

land; the latter, however, is a process of nature, while the former is an artificial or chemical process, wherein chemistry can supply all possible deficiencies. In corroboration of what has been said, we subjoin one or two letters from respectable brewers, who have been for years following this system of brewing without any occasion to have recourse to changes of yeast, and whose beer will at all times bear a comparison with that of any of their neighbours. Without reference, therefore, to the opinions of other writers on the subject, we have only further to say, that nothing is here stated but what we have convincing proof of, and are prepared to substantiate by experiment.

Dartmouth, 18th January, 1844.

DEAR SIR,—In answer to your query respecting changes of yeast, I have only to say, that so far as I have seen, since pursuing your system of brewing, no change has been wanted,—it is certainly quite unnecessary.

I can easily understand that after any long cessation from brewing, a supply of fresh yeast must be required,—but in no other case, if your mode of working be strictly adhered to.

I am, yours truly,

JOHN BAKER.

WM. BLACK, Esq.

Chesham, January 15, 1844.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to yours of the 10th, we are still of the same opinion, that, by your mode of working, a change of yeast is unnecessary, and as a proof of it, we used the same store you first brought with you for more than three years, and the tuns were uniformly healthy and vigorous; but during the last summer, as we were cleansing the brewery, &c., and consequently omitted a brewing or two, we obtained a fresh store, which we are still using with success. Perhaps you will be good enough to forward a copy of your new edition, when ready, and we will remit the amount.

We are, my dear Sir,

Yours, very truly,

THOS. AND JAS. NASH.

Wm. Black, Es .

Marine Brewery, Ratcliff, 9th Jan. 1844.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to yours of the 4th instant, we beg to say that we are most decidedly of opinion that changes of yeast are quite unnecessary; in fact, we never have them except we are obliged, which only happens after we have been stopping for repairs.

We feel indebted to you for the compliment you pay to our beers, which we trust will continue to

deserve the approbation of a brewer so well calculated to express an opinion.

Wishing you every success in the publication of the Third Edition of your valuable work, of which be pleased to send us a copy when published,

We are, dear Sir, yours very truly,

J. AND W. S. HOLT.

WM. BLACK, Esq.,

4, Lansdowne Cottages, Islington.

FERMENTATION.

THE process of fermentation has generally been considered by brewers as very mysterious and uncertain, and over which they have no control. This to a certain extent is no doubt true, for the yeasty heads covering the beer in the gyle-tun during fermentation will assume different appearances according to the fluctuations of the weather, and the seasons of the year. In summer we never see the light yeasty heads in the third change, rising to the fine rocky or alpine appearance which they assume in open frosty weather, nor do the yeasty heads in the fifth change become so close or solid. Windy or hazy weather also affects differently the appearance of the heads

of the beer during fermentation.—(See Regular Fermentation.) Over these different appearances, therefore, we have no control, and very likely never shall, unless we could also command the weather. But although we cannot at all times attain the same fine appearances during fermentation, by proper management we can always obtain a sound, regular, and healthy fermentation, and which will invariably produce good beer. We shall now proceed to shew how this may be accomplished.

All irregular or unhealthy fermentations arise either by the worts becoming tainted from bad management during some part of the process in brewing, or from positive electro-chemical action, which invariably produces acidity. I should here mention that negative electricity, although it prevents acidity, retards fermentation. In the first place, then, in order to have sound and untainted worts, the greatest cleanliness must be preserved in every stage of the process. First, the mash-tun and underback should be thoroughly cleaned out, as soon as possible after brewing, the coolers the same. The wort pumps also should be strictly attended to, so that no portion of the worts of a former brewing can possibly be left in them. Very injurious effects are often produced from want of attention to this. Any unnecessary delay in the process of brewing may cause taint or faintness, from the taps being too long

in being pumped into the copper. Under the article boiling, charring or carbonizing the worts by high pressure boiling in the copper, is mentioned as another cause of fretful fermentation.—(See cooling the Worts as another cause.) In short, such apparently trifling circumstances often produce such unsoundness, as to prevent the possibility of enumerating them.* (For electro-chemical action see Electricity and Want of Uniformity in Beer.)

We are now prepared, however, to assert and prove, that when worts are perfectly sound in all the stages of the process, their fermentation will at all times go on regularly and uniformly, if properly managed, and with sound yeast. The only difficulty, therefore, is, to know when any such unsoundness has actually taken place. A slight knowledge of chemistry will then not only materially assist us in tracing the evil to its cause, but also enable us, in after brewings, to prevent its occurrence, should it even proceed from atmospheric influence. As this evil, however, will sometimes arise, notwithstanding every precaution employed to prevent it, chemistry must be resorted to for enabling us to counteract its baneful effects.

Litmus Paper.

If the brewer have a sensitive smell and *taste*, they will at all times enable him to judge of the

* It may be proper to state that when acidification commences, fermentation, or perhaps more properly speaking, all further attenuation nearly ceases.

soundness or unsoundness of his worts. But when these cannot be depended upon, litmus paper will be found a very useful substitute. All worts, even when running from the mash-tun, contain a portion of acid, which, more or less, according to circumstances, will change the colour of the litmus paper. What we denominate sound worts, will give the paper a kind of dirty brownish red. When we find that the tinge of the paper is a brighter red, there must be additional acid, or perhaps a different acid, produced in some part of the process.

Having thus discovered that an excess of acid has been formed, chemistry must be resorted to for discovering the cause; and when found, we shall be enabled to apply the necessary preventives.

Best Temperature for Vinous Fermentation.

It has been generally found that what may be called a medium temperature during fermentation, has the best chance of producing beer of the proper vinosity and preservative quality. We have seen beer brewed in this country for which the fermentation was carried on at very high temperatures, say from 80° to upwards of 90°. We are also told from very high authority (Professor Liebig) that the fermentations for Bavarian beer, so celebrated in Germany, are carried on at very low temperatures, say from 42° to 50° F., which could only be done in this country at a very great expense. The first of these, although it answered very well for immediate

use, particularly in summer, soon acquired a mawkishness in flavour, and had always a want of vinosity, which, to those unaccustomed to drink it, would not be agreeable. The Bavarian beer that we have seen, is precisely similar in these respects. It very much resembles in taste the beer brewed in this country for the Indian market, but neither in vinosity nor flavour would it bear any comparison with the best British beer of a similar description. Having thus given some account of the two extremes, we are still disposed to think that medium temperatures during fermentation, will be found to produce the best beer in every respect. Let us therefore take a range of from 52° to 78° F., thus allowing 26° to be gained during the fermentation, which is enough for the attenuation of any sort of beer when brewed in proper season. We must now keep in mind, that if the proper quantities of good yeast have been employed, (see Yeast,) for every rise of one degree in temperature, there should be a corresponding loss of gravity in the worts of 1 lb. per Long, or 2.78 by Allan's or Bates' instrument. For example, —if worts of 42 lbs. gravity per Long be got together in the gyle-tun at 52° , when the temperature rises to 78° they should have lost 26 lbs. of gravity, and thus be attenuated to 14 lbs., when tried by the instrument. We now proceed to describe the appearances exhibited during fermentations of different kinds, and first—

The Regular Fermentation.

We shall now proceed to describe what we consider a sound and regularly good fermentation. In such fermentation, five distinct changes occur, followed, after a certain stage, by a highly pungent aroma, which rises with the carbonic acid gas. If this aroma throughout the process be sound and vinous to the smell, we may feel assured that the worts are sound, and will go on regularly: if on the contrary, a faintish, disagreeable, sub-acid flavour, arises at any time during the process, we know that acidity or unsoundness has taken place, which should be corrected.

1. The first stage of fermentation commences with a fine white substance like cream, appearing all round the edges of the gyle-tun; this creamy appearance gradually extends over the surface of the fluid in the tun. This we call creamed over, or the first change.

2. The next should be a curly appearance, like the head of a fine cauliflower, which should also extend all over the tun. This, the second change, we denominate the curling or cauliflower head. This cauliflower head should be examined very narrowly, as from its strong and healthy appearance or otherwise, we may pretty nearly judge of the health of the gyle. As above stated, it should have the appearance of a fine cauliflower. If, however,

it should assume the appearance of a well curled wig, (we have no better phrase,) having broad flaky curls, it denotes unsoundness. The aroma should now be very perceptible.

3. The curly head should then rise to a light yeasty or rocky head, little more than, perhaps, from two to three feet high, of a fine brownish-white colour if sound. If unsound, it assumes in some parts, an ugly bluish-white appearance, which often extends over the tun. This almost invariably happens where there is any galvanic action from chains of pipes, or a mixture of metals; and cannot be cured or prevented, but by doing away with the cause: that is, by insulating the tuns.

4. After a time, the light yeasty head should drop a little, perhaps 3 or 4 inches. This we call the 4th change. The aroma should now be very vinous and pungent.

5. The light yeasty head which had dropped, should now rise to what we call a close yeasty head, having the appearance of yeast all over, with many little air bubbles on the top, not, however, larger than a nut or a walnut; these constantly breaking, and others supplying their place. If the fermentation has been healthy throughout, the close yeasty head will continue rising, and puffing out gas from the air bells, until the beer is thought ready for cleansing. This will take place earlier or later, according to the quality of the beer and the public

taste. Should all these changes, as before stated, take place regularly, and be accompanied through the process by a sound healthy aroma, (generally termed "*stomach*,"") we may rest assured that all is right, and that the beer, if afterwards properly treated in storing, will turn out sound and good.

Sometimes, however, instead of these five changes, not more than three are perceptible, all of them fretful and unhealthy. (These appearances will be more fully treated of, when we describe Irregular Fermentations.) In that case, we know that the worts must have been tainted somewhere; the cause of which must be traced and corrected before any successful results can be expected. In most of the brewhouses which we have visited, we have invariably found, that the want of uniformity in fermentation did not arise from the uncertainty, as it is called, of the process, but from one or more of the causes before mentioned. We think, therefore, we are warranted in stating, that fermentations, when conducted on strictly chemical principles, may be carried on with nearly as great uniformity as any other chemical process.

Of Irregular Fermentation.

After what has been said about sound regular fermentations, it may by some be thought unnecessary to describe those which are irregular. There are many brewers, however, as before asserted,

who, from causes already mentioned, have never had it in their power to see a thoroughly regular and good fermentation. Such are apt to think that all is right, although the contrary may be the case ; we, therefore, think it better to describe some kinds which have come under our own observation, and shall commence with

Inert Fermentation.

This is perhaps the most dangerous, because it is the most deceitful. This fermentation, to inexperienced, and even to many experienced brewers, has every appearance of proceeding remarkably well, and they of course think that all is right. The beer, however, will always taste mawkish and heavy, and without vinosity, although the attenuation may have been carried to its proper extent. There can be no doubt of its proceeding from some of the causes of unsoundness already mentioned. It first makes its appearance in the second change, viz. the curling top, which, instead of assuming the fine cauliflower appearance, diverges into long flaky curls hanging downwards ; as soon as the "*stomach*" or smell of the gas begins to rise, a mawkish want of pungency and vinosity is discoverable by those who are acquainted with the proper odour.

The light yeasty head, instead of rising with a rocky appearance, is smooth all over ; it, however, often drops regularly, as in a healthy fermentation.

The proper close, yeasty head never rises, instead of which, if it does again rise, we have the same frothy appearance as before, smooth all over, with no appearance of air-bells as in a healthy process. The "*stomach*" also retains the same mawkish want of pungency and vinosity.

We have been thus minute in describing the progress of the above fermentation, because it is the most insidious and dangerous, as also the most common and least known or understood. How often do we hear of mawkishness in the taste which cannot be accounted for. We may rest assured that in nine instances out of ten, it proceeds from the inert fermentation, and not from want of boiling, to which it is generally ascribed.

Before the remedy can be known, the cause must be traced; every experienced brewer will then know how to proceed.

The Boiling Fermentation.

This, to look at, is the most formidable of the irregular forms of the process, and proceeds also from unsoundness in the worts, or occasionally from bad yeast; for which also there is no certain remedy but tracing and removing the cause. It commences, like others, with a creamy top, but the curl rises very light and faint, and in patches over the tun. The light yeasty head has an ugly, bluish-white appearance in some parts of the tun, while in

others it has a fretful blistery appearance, and only just covering the beer: this is accompanied with little or no attenuation. The *stomach*, although sometimes pungent, is neither healthy nor 'vinous. When the light yeasty head disappears, no other head rises, and the fermentation very soon assumes the appearance of a boiling cauldron.

In the early part of our practice we have had occasion to see a good many boiling fermentations which we could not then account for. Since that time, however, we have been enabled to trace the causes, and invariably to remove them.

Of Close Fermentation.

Many think that fermentation goes on better when the gyle-tuns are accurately closed, so as to prevent contact with the atmosphere. In as far as regards the atmosphere, this opinion is correct; but when fermentation goes on vigorously, there can be no connection with the atmosphere,—the great production of carbonic acid gas excluding it. Carbonic acid gas is heavier than atmospheric air, in the proportion of 1527 to 1000, and while it floats on the surface of the beer, and at the same time is produced in such quantities as to be constantly making its escape, atmospheric air cannot possibly interfere.

About the year 1824, Mr. Gray, of Westham, on Madame Gervas's principle, attempted to intro-

duce close fermentations into this country. It was tried in several places, but we have never heard of its having been permanently adopted. What may be denominated close fermentations are, however, still practised in many parts of the country. When the worts are gathered together in the tun, a certain portion of yeast is added ; the gyle-tuns are then shut up as accurately as circumstances will permit, and fermentation is allowed to take its own course, until the yeast falls to the bottom ; thus trusting the whole process to chance.

The beer so produced is invariably what is technically denominated foul or yeast-bitten, leaving a nasty disagreeable bitter on the palate ; a taste to those unaccustomed to it, quite nauseous. It also, like all foul beer, stupifies without exhilarating, and produces, especially amongst sedentary people, heart-burn and head-ache. Custom, however, has so reconciled this unwholesome beverage to the palates of the consumers, that the stupifying quality is thought to proceed rather from the strength of the beer, than from its foulness from the yeast improperly combined with it, or perhaps sometimes from narcotics improperly introduced during the process. We trust, however, that other brewers, by following a more healthy process, and thus producing a better and more healthy beverage, will be able to convince those who follow the above mentioned unwholesome and erroneous mode of fer-

mentation, that a more scientific process must be adopted.

Of Long and Short Fermentations.

We have always contended that long fermentations are more hazardous than the shorter processes, it being understood that the temperature of the fermenting tuns can be controlled by proper means. It cannot be disputed, that when worts are kept a fortnight, or perhaps more, in the gyle-tun, they are much more liable to be injured by the different atmospheric fluctuations which may take place during that period, both with regard to the influence of electricity and temperature, than they can possibly be in a period of from forty to seventy hours, or sometimes less. If, therefore, equally good, or perhaps even better results, both as to soundness and flavour, can be produced by the shorter process, it must be preferable. It saves both room and expense. Indeed, we have known beer brewed by a short process of fermentation, entirely consumed before beer by the long process was out of the gyle-tun. If worts be partially unsound, and the proper quantity of yeast added for a vigorous fermentation, it will no doubt often lead to the boiling and other erroneous fermentations, which do not, in the slow process, assume an appearance so alarming to the inexperienced brewer as the rapid. We generally find, however, that where the causes of unsound-

ness have been traced and removed, and the quick fermentations introduced, they have been found to be not only much safer, but to lead to better results than any other, and they, in consequence, have been permanently adopted.

We know that vigorous fermentations always produce the best beer for consumption in warm climates. For stock beers, therefore, which have to stand the summer of this country, the same process will be found the more certain.

Skimming.

At what time the troublesome, tedious, and wasteful process of skimming the yeast off the gyle-tun was introduced, we do not exactly know. We have no doubt, however, that its introduction proceeded from unsoundness in the worts, and consequently fretful fermentations.

By frequently taking off the heads in a fretful fermentation, we no doubt ultimately produce a better appearance. This having been discovered, probably led to the general adoption of that system in certain parts of the country.

A better appearance of the head produced in this way will not, however, tend much to the production of better beer, unless the original cause of the prior ugly appearances have been removed. Indeed, we have seen beer which had been nearly a fortnight in the gyle-tun, undergoing the process of skimming,

and having apparently a fine, close, yeasty head, but at the same time smelling and tasting sour. In other instances, we have seen beer left in the gyle-tun to flatten, as it is called; instead of which, however, the beer was gaining heat from a second fermentation, which had distinctly taken place without the brewer being aware of it. The further progress in acidification was then put a stop to, by removing the beer to a colder atmosphere.

Skimming is also attended by a considerable waste of beer, as those who practise it well know. It also generally prevents the possibility of keeping the tun-room clean, splashes of yeast lying all over. We have heard many brewers state their want of confidence in themselves to attempt a vigorous fermentation; and at the same time express their astonishment at seeing it gone through successfully. We are led to conclude, therefore, that inexperience and want of confidence have principally led to the adoption of slow fermentations and skimming.

Fretting Fermentation.

The fretting, or fretful fermentation, proceeds either from using stale or languid yeast. It is often preceded by unsound worts. The first indication is soon after the tun has creamed over. Instead of rising to a curling top, blue patches make their appearance in different parts of the head, and no proper light yeasty change takes place. In about

eight or ten hours a sort of undulating motion is apparent all over the top of the worts, and soon after this the head, which has never been above three or four inches high, begins to drop, and is replaced by large and rather opaque air-bells, which always denote acidity.

There are various ways of making the appearances more healthy. But prevention is better than cure; and, as we have already stated, the causes may be easily traced and removed. The beer so fermented will be either mawkish or yeast-bitten, or perhaps both.

Yeast-bitten Fermentation.

As this term may not be thoroughly understood, we shall endeavour to explain its meaning. Some beer, when drunk, leaves a very unpleasant bitterness on the palate, which hangs there for a considerable time. This bitter taste is supposed by many to proceed from hops; the hop bitter, however, is quite different, being highly aromatic and pleasant, and, technically speaking, goes clean off the palate.

This disagreeable bitterness proceeds from using stale, languid yeast, which, instead of carrying on the fermentation properly, seems to get so incorporated with the beer, as to become a component part of it, which cannot be discharged, as happens after a proper fermentation. Such beer, therefore,

must be injurious to all constitutions, but particularly to delicate females and sedentary people. It produces acidity on the stomach, consequently heart-burn, and a stupifying effect without exhilarating.

Yeast-bitten beer often appears bright enough to the eye, and from this circumstance many people are induced to think it must be good, wholesome drink. The harsh disagreeable bitter, however, which hangs, for a length of time, on the palate, is at once perceptible to any good judge, and warns him against its continued use.

On the Acetous Fermentation.

As the fermentation of malt worts for making vinegar is generally carried on at a much higher temperature, than that commonly used for beer, it has been thought that this high temperature is absolutely necessary for their after acidification ; and it probably in some way facilitates that change. This mode of working being peculiar to the manufacture of vinegar, has procured for the process the name of the Acetous Fermentation ; but we know, that no more acidity is generated in the gyle-tun during the fermentation for vinegar than in that for beer, unless it proceeds from other causes. It is so far, therefore, only the vinous fermentation of a malt wort, to be converted into vinegar by an after process.

It is even doubtful, however, whether the after process can be properly called a fermentation ; for

at the time the greatest acidification may be going on, there is often very little appearance of effervescence or fermentation. The fermented wort is converted into vinegar by its being exposed in open vessels, to imbibe oxygen from the atmosphere, and the acidification appears to be accelerated by heat, which is obtained by exposure to the sun in summer, or from stoves in cold weather. But from exposure alone acidity would take place in time without any artificial heat being applied.

We are now treating of vinegar made from malt without reference to that made on the Continent from grapes or wine; but heat we believe is also had recourse to there to accelerate the same process. The vinous fermentation, in vinegar made from every vegetable matter, must, to a certain extent, precede what is called the acetous, as it is alcohol only which imbibes oxygen, and becomes acetic acid.

Chemists inform us that the acetous fermentation may set in during the fermentation of beer, after it exceeds a certain temperature in the gyle-tun; but they cannot afford any chemical proof of this statement. We have seen beer, the fermentation of which was begun at 80° F., and carried to upwards of 90°, and which beer at the end of twelve months bore the test of litmus paper as well as any Bavarian beer that has been met with by us, and this notwithstanding that the latter beer had never

exceeded perhaps little more than half that temperature in its fermentation. It is proper, however, to add, that the former beer, as well as all the Bavarian beer which I have seen, wanted vinosity, and had a mawkishness in flavour which would not generally please in this country.

It is well known, and can easily be shown, that positive electricity excites acidity in worts or beer, while negative electricity prevents it. This accounts for the tendency to acidity in all beer which has been subjected to positive electro-chemical action in any part of the process of brewing, but particularly in the gyle-tuns during fermentation.

From what has been said, it would appear that there must be some doubt as to whether what is called the acetous fermentation has ever as yet been properly defined; and, with all due deference to much higher authority, it seems at least very doubtful whether the term acetous fermentation is scientifically applicable to any stage of the process of converting beer into vinegar. At all events, no undue acidity takes place in the prior vinous fermentation, unless produced by galvanic action or other accidental causes.

Distillers' Wash.

In confirmation of the above, it may be stated, that distillers in the fermentation of their wash wish to avoid all acidity as much as brewers. It de-

creases the quantity of spirits from the still in proportion to the extent of acidification which may have been generated. Their fermentations, however, generally speaking, are carried on at as high temperatures, or nearly so, as those used by the vinegar-makers; but when successfully conducted, their fully attenuated wash will bear the litmus test as well as sound beer. When fully attenuated, however, they always find that the sooner they can be brought to the still, the better will be the produce in spirits. It sometimes happens, from accidents or other causes, that their wash cannot be distilled at the proper time, and thus by their being kept too long in the fermenting backs, although kept as much secluded from the atmosphere as possible, acidification begins to supervene, which is indicated immediately by an increase of specific gravity, and the produce in spirits will then be proportionally less and less, according to the time the wash may be thus exposed to atmospheric fluctuations. These few observations are only made in confirmation of what has been above-stated; but as this is merely a treatise on brewing, we shall not at present enter further upon the subject, although distillers, from similar causes, are just as likely to be unsuccessful in their fermentations as brewers.

Further Remarks on Fermentation.

It happens sometimes in long fermentations, that although the heads on the worts assume in certain stages very unhealthy appearances, they afterwards, even spontaneously, become more vigorous and healthy; and this the inexperienced brewer assumes as a certain indication that all is right. He may rest assured, however, that if an unhealthy appearance takes place in any part of the process, it denotes either more than the common acidity in the worts, or acidity produced in the process of fermentation by electro-chemical action, or other causes. And, however healthy to appearance the fermentation may become, the beer, instead of being what is denominated "sound old," will fly off to an acid. This in a great measure accounts for the difficulty of procuring any really sound beer after it has attained a certain age. We have very often, on pointing out some very irregular appearances in certain stages of fermentation, been met by the remark,—“Oh! that is nothing; it will all be quite right before cleansing.” The beer, however, notwithstanding its healthy appearance, will always retain a mawkish, subacid flavour, very disagreeable to those who have accurate palates, and also highly prejudicial to the health of those who drink it.

Many brewers, however, rather than allow their own knowledge of their business to be called in

question, will persist in this erroneous mode of working; trusting that their beer will be all consumed before any of the anticipated bad effects can take place. Such brewers obviously look more to their own profits than to the health of the consumers.

Some remarks on Spontaneous Fermentation will be found in the APPENDIX.

PALE ALE.

The best Malt for Pale Ale.

BRILLIANCY and paleness of colour are the great desiderata with the public, in all high-priced ales. To have the desired paleness, the brewer is obliged to look out for the palest malt, and is often induced to buy such as has not been thoroughly dried on the kiln; or, if a maltster himself, to take it off his kiln before the moisture has been thoroughly evaporated. If malt of this description be used in brewing, it will invariably be found to produce more acidity in the worts than when it has been thoroughly dried or *well-cured*. Indeed, the technical terms of *well* or *ill-cured* malt imply as much.

To prove this it is only necessary to test the different worts with litmus paper, when running from

the mash-tun. It will then be found that the worts running from the uncured malt, will tinge the paper of a brighter red than those running from the thoroughly dried malt; thus proving that there is more acid in the former than in the latter.

There can be no doubt, therefore, that the ale brewed from slack-dried malt (technically so called) will be much more apt to become acid than when brewed from that which is thoroughly dried or cured. Indeed, the double flavour of sweet and sour is often perceptible in the stronger ales, in a very short time, when they have been brewed with slack-dried malt, or with malt which has been allowed to imbibe moisture.

We trust enough has been said upon this subject to induce all brewers to be particularly careful, when selecting their malt, to avoid such as has not been thoroughly dried. After such malt has been chewed in the mouth, and squeezed between the thumb and finger, a rawness in the smell is quite perceptible, which is never the case with that which has been well cured. All such malt ought to be *re-dried* on a kiln until all moisture is expelled.

Hops for Pale Ale.

When brewing ales intended for long keeping or warm climates, it is perhaps necessary to be very careful in the selection of hops. The best East Kents, or North Clays, are considered as having the

most preservative quality, being stronger than others. Many are in the practice of selecting the palest that can be procured, merely on account of their colour.

On the same principle, however, as with regard to malt, we recommend those of a fine straw-colour, as having attained greater maturity before being picked; and also as being better cured or dried upon the kiln.

Pale green hops are subject to the same exceptions as slack-dried malt, and may possibly to a certain extent be equally objectionable. For running beers, meaning those for immediate use, we have always found that fine Sussex or Worcester hops were equally good as the stronger Kents, if not, indeed, preferable to them.

The best Sussex hops, however, are so much improved of late, that they now nearly resemble the Weald of Kent: indeed it would be very difficult to discriminate between them; and we should as readily use the one as the other. Many are in the practice of using only yearling or older hops, or at least the greater proportion of such, in ales for immediate use, having an idea that the ales get sooner bright, and are less bitter. This is a mistake, as we have very often proved. The bitter complained of proceeds from the ale being yeast-bitten, or partially so; but the ale, if sound, will become bright equally as soon with the one as the other.

The increasing attention now beginning to be paid by the planter, to the growth of the *male* or wild hop, and also having them more numerously distributed in the hop-ground, will rapidly increase the *productiveness* of the *female* or common hop which the brewers use, and also improve the *quality* of the plant.

SUMMER BREWING.

BREWING in summer has always been considered a very uncertain process: and both brewers and distillers find it impossible to carry on their operations during that season so successfully as in winter. The generally received opinion is, that the state of the atmosphere in summer, prevents fermentation from going on so successfully as in winter.

This, however, we do not admit. If the fermenting tuns be properly placed, and the worts are as sound when fermentation begins as they are in winter, along with sound yeast, the fermentation, with a properly regulated temperature, will go on equally well. The worts, however, owing to the state of the atmosphere, are more liable to get tainted during the process of brewing in summer, than they are in winter; and as already stated, the

least additional acidity in the worts will always produce irregular fermentations. It is, therefore, the difficulty of preserving worts in summer, so as to go sound into the gyle-tun, on which the uncertainty in fermentation during that season depends; and not the interference of the atmosphere with the process of fermentation.

Art, by means of fans, refrigerators and regulators, has now enabled us to overcome, in a great measure, the difficulties formerly experienced. Even now, however, with the assistance of all these new inventions, summer brewing is found to be very uncertain and precarious; and no one thinks of brewing more than may be absolutely necessary for immediate draught. The more speedily the whole process can be carried through at this season, the greater probability of success. The taps or worts should never be allowed to remain in the under-back, but should immediately be run into the copper for the purpose of gaining heat.

It has been already stated that the whole extract, of any value, must be made in the first mash, and that all we can afterwards do, is to wash out the saccharine remaining in the malt after the saccharisation has been thoroughly formed in the first mashing. There can be no use, therefore, in allowing the liquor to remain long on the goods in the after mashes. We should, consequently, proceed as rapidly as possible. To accomplish this,

instead of adopting the mode of sprinkling or sparging, now so generally practised, it will be found, that by turning the same number of barrels over (not under) the goods as we should do for a second mash, the extract may be quite as effectually washed out as by sparging.

Some mode, however, must be adopted to prevent the liquor, by running too rapidly, making a hole in the goods or malt in the tun, so as to raise them without the liquor finding its way directly through them. This can be easily accomplished by placing a board or bit of canvass on that part of the tun on which the liquor directly runs. If the malt (or goods) rise through the liquor on top, which will invariably happen with good malt in the course of ten or fifteen minutes, the worts may immediately be set a running as rapidly as the false bottom will permit. If, however, the malt does not rise, which sometimes happens with inferior malt, a short mash must be resorted to, after which ten minutes' standing will be quite sufficient. Where two boilings are necessary, the quantity turned over, in this second mash, should make up precisely the quantity wanted for the first boiling. Where there are two coppers, there can be no difficulty in the after proceedings, but where only one, we must be guided by existing circumstances. The great desideratum in all our operations is facility. When we have a raw or return wort to follow, the necessary quantity of

liquor for the second boiling may be turned on at once ; but where no raw wort is taken, two or perhaps three washings are necessary to get the whole extract from the malt.

The third liquor, if the process be properly conducted, may generally be had from the copper, even although an open one : for the fourth and fifth we may with the greatest safety apply cold liquor ; sprinkling, however, over the malt in the mash-tun a little common salt, or half the quantity of subcarbonate of soda or potash. As we have already stated, long boiling produces no preservative quality in the beer. Boiling for more than an hour is, therefore, unnecessary for the first worts.

The worts of the third mash should be allowed to run, when the copper of the first worts begins to boil, thus allowing one hour for preparing the second boiling. The time of boiling the second worts must be regulated, of course, by the strength of the beer we intend to produce. Where the worts are boiled off at one boiling, the same course must be pursued ; the only difference being that the third tap may be allowed to run a good deal sooner. All this, however, will be more thoroughly explained, and better understood, by referring to the practical brewings at the end of this book.—See “ Mashing ” for calculating the gravities.

A very desirable appendage for summer brewing,

is a refrigerator, for cooling the beer to a certain temperature, after having thrown off its yeast. Beer must be cooled down to a temperature of at least 60° F. before it will become bright.

We have not yet alluded to the necessity of cleanliness in every department, and in summer brewing particularly. In summer, every vessel employed should be well washed after every process, and once a week a solution of chloride of lime ought to be employed in doing so. We will now conclude our remarks on summer brewing, by again stating, that unsoundness in the worts, however produced, is the source of failure, and that the only remedy is to trace out and remove the cause.

WINTER BREWING.

It is a very common observation, that any one can brew in winter, and certainly the chances of brewing successfully are much in favour of that season. In the first place, there is much less risk of the worts getting tainted during the process than in summer : secondly, the yeast, which during summer will sometimes become unfit for use in a very few hours, is not in winter liable to any such speedy

changes; and will even keep for weeks in good working trim: thirdly, the stagnant, or even running water, which, from necessity, is often used in brewing, is in winter much less impregnated with organic matter and impurities than during summer: and thus no such bad effects need be apprehended in cold weather.

If, therefore, the brewhouse be so constructed as to avoid electro-chemical agency, the chances (so called) are much in favour of winter brewing.

Even in this season, wherever any galvanic agency takes place, the process of fermentation is quite as irregular as during summer, and the results are equally uncertain.

In some brewhouses, particularly in the country, the tun-rooms, or chambers in which the fermenting tuns are placed, are so situated as to be affected by every change of temperature. The fermentations in the said tun-rooms must consequently suffer from any sudden change. The great danger arises from a very sudden fall; for instance, we often find that the thermometer will fall 20° or even 30° in the course of a night, and when the tun-rooms are so situated as to be liable to the same change from the sudden decrease in temperature, the fermentations will often become stationary, and cannot be made to progress, unless the temperature be again raised by artificial means.

For this purpose, it is a common practice if

small concerns, to fill small casks with boiling water, and place them in the fermenting tuns, changing the water in the said casks, until the desired effect is produced. Others, where there are metal regulators in the tuns, run some hot water through them for the same purpose: this we have seen attended with bad consequences, whether from galvanism or not, we are not prepared to say. It is a practice which we do not recommend.

Mode of accelerating Fermentation when Languid.

A mode different from either, we have uniformly found successful; and it produces the desired effect much more quickly. A very slight rise in the temperature will again promote the fermentation; and the more speedily the required heat can be communicated, the better the effect.

If, therefore, brewing is going on next day, run a certain portion of either the first or second worts, as circumstances may require, into the stationary gyle-tun. Let them be as hot as possible; if only just off the boil, so much the better; about one gallon to a barrel, or even less may be enough.

If no brewing is going on, heat up the requisite quantity of worts, taken from the stationary gyle-tun, to the boiling temperature, or if there be no easy means of doing this, use in the same way about an equal quantity of boiling water. At the

same time light a fire in the tun-room to raise the temperature. A little additional yeast set a-working at a temperature of about 80°, will materially assist.

STOCK BEER.

Of the proper Season for Brewing.

AN opinion has long generally prevailed that October is the best month for brewing. Fermentation, however, is often found to go on as irregularly in that month, as at any other period of the year. It, perhaps, proceeds even more irregularly in this favourite month. This can only arise, as before stated, from unsoundness in the worts, which may proceed from the various causes already mentioned.

Where stagnant or running water is used in brewing, the fall of leaves and other parts of vegetables, either into the ponds or rivers, will, with the feculent matter already deposited therein, cause putridity, which must in a certain degree extend to the worts, causing unsoundness, and of course fretful fermentations. This will sufficiently account for any failure. After a good hard frost has taken place, the stagnant or running water may be used

more safely, although good spring-water is always preferable.

In the families of noblemen or gentlemen who brew their own beer, October is often still preferred for that purpose. This, however, can be no proof of its superiority, as they generally brew with spring-water ; and their mode of brewing would not answer in a public brewery. They are in the first place very indifferent as to the quantity of malt used in brewing, and the worts are consequently of very high gravities. Their brewers being generally but imperfectly acquainted with the use of a saccharometer, and often even of a thermometer, must trust every thing to chance. The fermentations are, therefore, carried no further in the first instance, than to produce an unattenuated sweet-wort, which has to undergo a second fermentation before it becomes ale or beer. On the management of this second fermentation depends the quality of the said beer.

The worts being originally very strong, retain a sufficient quantity of saccharine matter to prevent the occurrence of acidification, unless exposed to the action of the atmosphere, and in temperatures which are too high, or to the action of galvanism or common electricity. When the second fermentation appears, the skill of the butler is required to give the necessary vent, and to rack the beer into other casks to stop the fermentation, when he thinks it has proceeded far enough.

It will thus appear, that, however fine we may occasionally see the beer which is brewed by private families, the whole process is a matter of mere chance, and could not be adopted with success in any public establishment.

From what has been said, it would appear that October is by no means the best season for brewing stock beer, and when stagnant water is used, must be decidedly the worst. The season which we recommend for the purpose, is fine open frosty weather whenever that may occur, or when the temperature of the air is about 40° F. and clear, with N.E. winds and high barometer. The worts are then much less liable to become tainted than in rainy or hazy weather, and the fermentation will be more healthy and vigorous, and thus produce a sounder and better beer than can be obtained under different circumstances. Frosty weather may be expected from December till nearly the end of March: these four months, therefore, are the proper months for brewing stock beer.

All stock beer should undergo a vigorous fermentation: this cannot be accomplished with any certainty, by a slow process, as is sufficiently exemplified by the fact, that no brewer pursuing the slow process of fermentation, will guarantee his beer above a certain limited period, and even before the end of that period, it is often returned by the purchaser on account of unsoundness. Stock beer,

therefore, of whatever strength, should never be more than from 50 to 70 hours in going through its regular process of fermentation in the gyle-tun. Skimming in this case is quite superfluous, as the beer, when cleansed at the proper time, will throw off the yeast in the cleansing cask, quite as well and perhaps much better for its preservation, than by any other process.

Slack Malt hurtful.

We may also observe that the malt generally used for brewing in Autumn, is that which has been kept over the season; and in many cases will be found to have got *slack* or moist from exposure to the atmosphere. Malt of this description, as already stated, always produces unsound worts, and consequently, unsound beer. Malt in this state should, therefore, always be re-dried on the kiln before being used in brewing.

REMARKS

On Want of Success from Change of Locality.

It has already been stated that a brewer, on going from one brewhouse to another, often finds it impossible to produce beer which is equally good in

his new situation. This has been found to be the case even when all the materials have been furnished from the same stock. How is this to be accounted for? In days of yore it was attributed to witchcraft, and even now there are many who cannot otherwise account for it. Chemistry has, however, superseded witchcraft, in every process dependent upon its own laws. The process of brewing being strictly chemical from beginning to end, must be subservient to the laws of chemistry, and until these laws are understood and applied, no uniformity can be expected. In some chemical processes, the slightest variation will produce very different results. By using vessels made of certain improper materials in some chemical processes, it is possible to compound deadly poisons, instead of wholesome medicines. May not the same, to a certain extent, be true in the brewery? If we find that in one brewhouse, constructed in a certain way, every thing succeeds, while in others, differently constructed, nothing will succeed, have we not a right to suppose that this must be owing to the different construction of the said brewhouses? and that, therefore, the process of brewing must be pursued with reference to the proper chemical laws, in every respect the same as in producing the nicest chemical compounds.

Now, however, nothing is attended to in the construction of brewhouses but saving manual labour ;

by the introduction of a multiplicity of metal pipes, to prevent the possibility of any waste in the beer. We think enough has already been advanced in the chapter on Electricity, to point out the injurious effects of mixtures of metals in the construction of brewing utensils; and we have little doubt that a great proportion of the inferior beer which we now see, is produced by the electro-chemical action, proceeding from the above-mentioned mixture of metals. As brewing, therefore, is a strictly chemical process, the laws of chemistry, by which it can alone be safely directed, should be much better understood than they have hitherto been by all connected with the trade. There can be little doubt but that the art of brewing, like other arts, will hereafter be conducted on such scientific principles as may render it as independent of chance, accident, or locality, to which much importance is erroneously attached, as other arts in which the proper means have been adopted to acquire successful uniformity.

We often hear locality quoted as the only reason which can be assigned, that better beer is brewed in one district of the country than in others. Locality, so far as malt is concerned, may no doubt have an influence; some districts produce much finer qualities of barley than others, and of course, much finer and better-flavoured malt. The flavour of beer must of course depend on the quality of the materials which may be used in manufacturing it,

and also on the mode of manufacturing it. No further importance, however, can be attached to locality ; as we can always in any place find water sufficiently fit for brewing, and by a proper construction of the premises, form our own locality, as often has been and can again at any time be proved.

DRUGS.

ALTHOUGH, generally speaking, we object to all drugs in brewing, it would be folly to suppose that we may not occasionally find the benefit of resorting to such simple chemical remedies as may be found necessary, for properly cleansing the utensils, and removing unsoundness. Some distinct chemical knowledge is therefore necessary, as we might otherwise employ deleterious substances for these purposes. The practice of drugging is now rarely employed ; and we know, that in London, no respectable house will, on any account, permit it. We have reason to think, however, that some country brewers are not so scrupulous ; but are often over persuaded by ignorant quacks, to make use of such drugs as they may recommend, for the purpose of giving flavours. One drug is represented

to make the beer keep, a very desirable object ; and others are said to confer fine flavours, vinosity, &c. &c. Others, and those very various, are famed for giving the London porter flavour ; and the ignorant brewer is induced to use them, from being told by those quacks that the great London houses do the same. We can assure these mistaken persons, however, that no great London house uses, now-a-days, any ingredient disallowed by law ; and that no other flavour is given than what is produced by malt and hops.

When harmless ingredients are used for giving flavours, they cannot be particularly condemned : they however subject the brewer, when discovered, to the penalties of the law ; and on every account are rather to be avoided. When such drugs as *cocculus Indicus*, opium, tobacco, &c. &c. are used for giving a stupifying quality to the beer, every brewer using them must know, that besides subjecting himself to heavy penalties, he is doing gross injustice to the public.

It is generally supposed that the finest ale cannot be brewed without flavouring matter. This, however, is quite a mistake. The flavour of the finest Burton, Scotch, and other ales, proceeds chiefly from the care taken in selecting the best malt and hops, and the high gravities of the worts. These ales are from forty to forty-five lbs. per barrel gravity, by Long's instrument, or 1·111 to 1·125

specific gravity, by Allan's or Bates'. Whenever the gravities of worts exceed forty, a much richer flavour is produced than at lower densities. This accounts for the superiority of high-priced ales.

Any brewer using ingredients disallowed by law, subjects himself to information from any of his servants, who must no doubt discover it, and thus loses all command over them.

No respectable house, therefore, will now run any such risks, and we would strongly recommend it to all, never to be influenced by the opinions of ignorant quacks, who, knowing nothing about the matter, care only for their own interest.

Heading.

There is, however, one ingredient, called heading, that gives to porter a fine frothy top, which adheres to the pot or glass, when pouring out, or drinking the beer. It is sulphate of iron, commonly called salt of steel, which, when applied in such small quantities as will have the desired effect, can do no harm. One ounce of this is enough for four barrels; or one quarter of an ounce to a barrel.

This heading also imparts to the beer a sharpness in taste, generally liked by porter drinkers. The law, however, has imposed severe penalties on the use of it, and a test is applied for detecting its presence. The test alluded to is the *red ferro-cyanide of potassium*. As it is not a substitute for either

malt or hops, and as people generally prefer porter carrying a good head, there can be no good reason for its being so severely prohibited.

Of mixing Beers.

The process of mixing beers is technically denominated "*marrying*" them. This process is seldom attempted with mild ales, but with the more hardy beer called porter, it is very generally practised. Mild beer is now become the order of the day; and old beer, excepting when mixed with new, is seldom drunk. The uncertainty of brewing, the reasons of which we have attempted to explain, occasions a great deal of beer to be returned by the publicans to the brewer, principally in summer. These returns are stowed in vats, where they are allowed to remain until they are thought to be in a fit condition to be mixed with mild new beers, the only way by which they can be got rid of. This is occasionally done by breaking the old beers into the gyle-tuns with the worts, while in a state of fermentation, which is a very dangerous mode of working; for if the fermentation should be in the least degree languid, the addition will make it more so, and the whole gyle, or brewing, will be unfit to be sent out. This injudicious plan has sometimes been followed to such an extent, as to block up the brewer; that is to say, he at last accumulates such a quantity of unsaleable beer, as not to leave room for brewing

any more, until, perhaps, he has been obliged to turn some of his stock down the kennel. Others break their old beer into the breaking batch (or vessel into which the porter is run before being pumped into the vats) with the mild beer. This mode of working may also be unsafe; for unless the fermentation has been vigorous and healthy, and the old beer brought into a fit state for mixing, no combination will take place; the beer will retain a double flavour, and be occasionally unfit to be sent out, unless by being brought into proper condition, and again mixed off with mild beer. From the above remarks, it will be seen that marrying or mixing beers is a very dangerous process, unless when thoroughly understood by the operator.

Old beer can never be in a proper state for mixing off, unless when brought *round* (as it is called) for that purpose. This can only be done by again bringing it into a state of fermentation in the vat: after which, if properly treated, it will generally become bright and sparkling; that is to say, if it has not got so bad as to be totally irrecoverable, or unfit for use in any way excepting in making blacking. It will then at once combine with any sound mild beer, and, instead of injuring, will improve the flavour. Judiciously to bring on the above-mentioned fermentation in the vat, and at the same time so as not to carry it too far, requires a good deal of skill, and can only be accomplished by those who

have been accustomed to such management. Where the process of fermentation is properly and scientifically conducted, these artifices, rendered necessary generally, by neglect or ignorance, will seldom be required.

STORING AND KEEPING BEER.

THE best and most proper mode of storing and keeping beer is well worthy of the greatest attention. There are, however, many contradictory opinions upon this subject. Some think that all beer, but particularly ale, should be flattened, as it is called, before being stored in vats or casks. For this purpose, where slow fermentation and skimming are practised, large open vessels or tanks are provided, into which the beer is run, after having been a sufficient time, as it is considered, in the gyle or fermenting tun. The ale or beer is allowed to remain in these vessels for a longer or shorter time according to the fancy of the brewer or storehouseman. It is during this period imbibing oxygen from the atmosphere, and sometimes is allowed to remain there until acidification has distinctly commenced, as indicated by white spots appearing on the surface, and by an increase of temperature. The brewer

who adopts this practice, thinks the beer is so much flattened as to prevent its fretting in the vat. It will be found, however, that although the beer, from some little decrease in temperature by its removal, may be quiet enough for a time, yet the least increase of heat or exposure to the atmosphere, will again set it in motion ; when, by getting on the fret, acidity may be produced. It never can be thoroughly sound, and will very soon become flat in drawing. It will also be found that when beer has been too long flattened in this way, before being stowed in casks, it will very soon get flat and forward when in draught in the publicans' cellars.

This, therefore, must be a very erroneous mode of treating beer. Some brewers, who have no tanks for the purpose, pump their beer from the cleansing casks again into a fermenting-tun, where it is often allowed to remain until the same indications of acidity, as above mentioned, may have taken place, when the same bad consequences may be dreaded. One great complaint is, that though ale tastes very well when first tapped, yet it very soon gets flat and forward, and will not stand the draught. How can it, we may ask, when acidification has previously commenced by long exposure to the atmosphere ?

We think enough has been said to prove that long exposure of beer to the atmosphere is the worst mode of treating it. The laws of che-

mical science, not less than the facts, establish this conclusion.

When beer of any kind has gone through a regular and sound process of fermentation, and has had full time to throw off its yeast, and get quiet, which will always happen in a few days; any further exposure to the atmosphere is not only useless, but injurious.

It should, if sufficiently cool, (say about 52° F., which all stock beer must be on the third day after cleansing, when brewed in proper season,) be pumped into the vat; the bottoms which are pumped over along with it, will soon fall down, proving rather a preservative than otherwise.

The vats, when full, should be covered, and sand thrown on the cover, more effectually to exclude the atmosphere. A loaded self-acting vent-peg fixed in the top, would, however, be very desirable, so as to permit any elastic gas which may be produced to escape.

If the storehouse can now be kept at a regular temperature, no other precaution is necessary; but when liable to be affected by summer heats, the sand on the top of the vats should be sprinkled with common salt, which retains the moisture, and also be kept damp with water. This by evaporation will tend to keep the beer cool. When the beer, instead of being vatted, has to be stowed in casks proper for sending out, they should be conveyed to

the storehouse, and placed upon wooden bearers; then, instead of the bung-holes being left open, which is the common practice, bungs should be inserted slightly, so as to be easily thrown out if necessary. Holes should also be bored into every cask, either through or near the bung, and spiles or pegs inserted, so as at any time to give vent, should that be required. After having given vent, however, the bungs or pegs should be immediately replaced. By this treatment the beer, if properly brewed, will very soon become quiet, and if not exposed to higher temperatures, will require no further attention until it is sent out.

ON THE WANT OF UNIFORMITY IN THE QUALITY OF BEER: ITS CAUSES, AND HOW TO BE AVOIDED.

LONDON has always been celebrated for the peculiar flavour and excellence of its porter; for a long time it was supposed that this was mainly attributable to its being brewed with the water from the Thames; but as Thames water has for a long time ceased to be used in brewing it, that supposition has been abandoned. As each establishment, however, has

its own peculiar flavour, and differing in some respects from all others, it becomes difficult to say which is the right London flavour; and we greatly doubt whether any jury of twelve would agree upon this point: each would, very likely, give the preference to that he had been most accustomed to.

This variety of flavour is produced partly by the different grists used in brewing,—some using blown malts for colour and flavour, other roasted malt only, for the same purpose; and perhaps, also, from the different modes of fermentation which may have been adopted by each, but certainly not from the use of drugs, which has been often supposed.

It was afterwards imagined, that what was called the real porter flavour, could only be acquired by brewing it in large quantities at a time. As it has now been proved, however, that porter as good at least, can be made on a small scale as a large, that prejudice also has been done away with. Although we entirely disclaim all intention of giving offence to any one in particular, it is impossible to avoid remarking on the want of uniformity, and the inequality of the beer now generally produced, and which of late years have been so generally complained of by the public. In our article on Electricity, it is, we believe, pretty well proved by facts given from actual practice, that voltaic or electro-chemical action, is injurious to beer in every stage of its manufacture, but particularly so while undergoing the

process of fermentation, as can be easily ascertained by the litmus test, which indicates acidity. Indeed, it can be proved by the same test, that an increase of acid is often generated in the gyle-tun, and hence the tendency to increased acidity, when the beer is afterwards put on draught in the publican's cellar.

There can be no doubt, therefore, that wherever the gyle-tuns are embedded in the ground, great uncertainty must accrue from the frequent electrical changes of the earth and atmosphere. The same uncertainty will exist when the gyle or fermenting tuns are lined with different metals; but when chains of pipes called mains, consisting of various metals, are connected with the gyle-tuns and cleansing casks, the positive electro-chemical action must be such as invariably to produce acidity to a certain extent during its fermentation, and thus cause the injurious effects above mentioned. This injurious effect is shown by the light yeasty heads rising to an uncontrollable extent (no close yeasty heads can ever be attained). This, however, is thought by some to be a sure indication of a fine, healthy, and vigorous fermentation; instead of which, however, it will be found that such a degree of acidity is then being generated as will prevent the beer from keeping, as it is technically called, nor can it ever arrive to be what is called really *sound old*—an article now as difficult to be obtained as it is much wanted.

Such are causes enough for the actual uncertainty in the quality of beer, and sufficient also to lead to the returns of those large quantities upon the brewer, which, in order to get rid of, must afterwards be mixed *or married* with other beer, thereby deteriorating its quality, even were it otherwise previously good.

When beer of the above description is exported or sent to a distance, it also must be returned upon the brewer, or ruinous discounts given to the purchasers to prevail upon them to retain and get quit of it how they best can, which is very often done. The causes of error being thus explained, the remedy is obvious ; nor can the irregularities cease until their causes be removed.

FININGS.

ALL sorts of beer, if sound and well brewed, will, in due time, become bright ; but when drank so new as is generally the practice, fining is absolutely necessary to give it that brilliant transparency which is so pleasant to the eye, and without which the best beer would be objected to.

The most efficient fining for beer which we have yet discovered is isinglass ; the best of which is obtained from the sounds of the sturgeon, a fish

found in the Danube, and rivers of Muscovy. In this country an inferior sort is prepared from the sounds of cod-fish, or ling; or, indeed, from any other fish: and also from the skins of soles.

The best isinglass is nearly all gelatine, and contains ninety-eight parts in every 100 which are soluble in boiling water. Isinglass varies in price from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 16*s.* per lb. There are various modes of ascertaining its value: and we extract two modes, from a paper on the subject by Mr. S. Roberts, in Dr. R. D. Thomson's *Records of Science*, No. 14, pp. 106, 107.

“A great variety of isinglass is offered for sale, at a range of prices from 3*s.* to 16*s.* per pound; and the relative value of each kind may be known by the following tests:—

“In the first place, isinglass should remain unchanged, by being steeped in spirit of wine or alcohol, from 50° to 60° over proof, in which gelatine (the chemical principle of isinglass) is insoluble. The alcohol, or spirit of wine, in which the isinglass has been steeped, should then be tried with a few drops of tincture of galls; if the liquor remain clear and unchanged, it is much in favour of the character of the isinglass. If, on the other hand, the tincture of galls causes a precipitate from the alcoholic liquor, the isinglass is not pure, as it contains something more than pure gelatine.

“Different samples of isinglass, which have

remained unchanged in alcohol or spirit of wine, should also be tried by the two following methods, before an opinion can be given as to their relative value. Try given weights of each sample (one-eighth of an ounce, for instance) in three ounces of water by measure, in separate vessels ; bring them gradually to a boil, occasionally stirring each sample. While hot, strain the different solutions through muslin, into separate vessels. In proportion to the quantity of undissolved matter left upon each strainer, may the solubility of the different samples be ascertained ; that which leaves the least residuum will form, when cold, the strongest jelly, upon which the clearing property of isinglass depends. The remaining trial to which the different samples are to be submitted, is the last and most decisive one. Equal weights of each sample (the one-fourth of an ounce, for instance) are to be cut into very small pieces, and each one-fourth of an ounce put into half a pint (imperial measure) of hard or sour beer, and the several vessels containing the different samples put into an apartment, at from 65° to 75° F., and allowed to remain there for three days, stirring each sample very well, once or twice a-day.

“At the expiration of that time, there will be an evident difference in the strength of each jelly, provided different qualities of isinglass had been submitted to the experiment ; and when the thickest jelly has a small quantity of the tincture of galls

applied to it, and stirred through it, it will separate the gelatine from the sample of isinglass in the form of a thick jelly. The other samples which afforded a less solid jelly will give, with tincture of galls when stirred through it, a smaller quantity of gelatine in the form of thick jelly.

“From the strength of the jelly given by any sample of isinglass steeped in the above proportion of sour beer (such as brewers use in making clearings), and submitted to a temperature *not exceeding* 75° F., may be ascertained the relative value of that sample, as upon the strength of the jelly, and, consequently, the quantity of gelatine contained in any isinglass, depends its value in clearing malt-liquor. The best short-staple isinglass is always soluble in boiling water to about $\frac{1}{30}$ residue.”

From the following quotations, however, it will appear that there are objections to the use of isinglass in fining beer, except for immediate use. Berzelius, who had discovered a small quantity of lactic acid in all animal fluids, and in muscular fibre, gave it as his opinion, in 1834, that lactic acid is produced in all fermentable matter. This suggestion has been confirmed by Vanden Ghyen of Ghent, who has extracted it from the beer of Diest: De Koninch has obtained the same acid from the brown beer of Malines. One litre of the beer of Diest afforded 2.20 grams of syrupy lactic acid. (L’Institut, 284.)

“M. Fremy says that the internal membrane of

the stomach of the calf is capable of transforming any aqueous solution of sugar into lactic acid." (L'Institut, 286.)

"M. Gay Lussac cautions, however, against the conclusion, that this change is an organic one, since it is possible that the transformation may be due to an action purely chemical between the saccharine and organic matter. Indeed, we know that lactic acid is in many cases produced by the contact of animal with vegetable substances." (L'Institut, 288.)

Mode of Preparing Finings.

Having thus stated objections which may be raised as to using isinglass for fining beer, we shall give the mode of preparing it for use. Chemists state that gelatine is dissolved in liquid alkalis. The common mode, however, of converting isinglass into finings for beer, is by dissolving it in the first place by acids. Let any quantity be taken which may be thought necessary according to the magnitude of the brewery, and placed in an open-headed cask: if cut into shreds it will dissolve the more quickly. Let it then be covered to the depth of five or six inches with vinegar, which is the best solvent, or with very acid old beer. When the isinglass has swelled up so as to have absorbed all the vinegar or old beer on the top, more vinegar or old beer must be added, again covering the mass to the depth of five or six inches: the

mixture should then be vigorously stirred with a hard broom, and the same process repeated as the isinglass goes on swelling, until the whole becomes of the consistence of pulp or thick jelly. Whatever quantity may then be wanted for use, may be taken out and put into another open-headed vessel, where it is to be mixed up with weak bright beer, (generally brewed for the purpose) until brought to its proper consistency for use. This should then be strained through a fine hair-sieve by rubbing it through the sieve with a hard hair-brush, into another open-headed vessel: the portion which cannot be passed through the sieve may be returned to the first vessel, until again wanted. No more vinegar or old beer should now be used; the isinglass in the first cask must still, as it keeps swelling and thickening, be thinned down with the thin bright beer, until in a fit state for being passed through the sieve as before, and the quantity wanted for immediate use can at any time be made as before directed.

How to be Used.

When finings are properly made, they should be transparent, and no undissolved particles of the isinglass should be seen in them: the specific gravity should not be above 1.025. All sound well-brewed beer will readily become bright with finings as above described; but there are other

sorts of beer which will not be rendered bright by any finings, and in this case, finings will be rather detrimental than otherwise. If, therefore, there should be any doubt as to the aptitude of the beer to take finings, it should in the first place be tried. This may be done by taking a small quantity of the beer from the vat, or whatever other vessel it may be contained in, and putting it into a long glass vessel made for the purpose. To this add a tea-spoonful or more of the finings; it must then be shaken so as to mix thoroughly the finings with the beer; if the beer is sound, and has been well brewed, its aptitude to become bright will be soon shown, by the mixture becoming thick and curdy: a bright portion will generally make its appearance at the bottom or middle, and the finings will gradually mount up to the top, taking all impurities along with them, and leaving the remainder brilliantly bright. It has by some been stated that the finings should have a contrary effect, and at once carry the impurities from the top to the bottom. This, however, is a mistaken idea, and only takes place with what is called stubborn beer, and which will not become thoroughly bright whatever quantity of finings may be added to it. Should the sample in the glass become bright, there can be no doubt that the bulk will be affected in the same manner; but if not, there can be no advantage in applying finings, as they must produce more harm than good.

The more pure the isinglass, the more finings can be made from the same weight. Some are in the practice of dissolving the isinglass in boiling water to make finings; this is not only a very expensive, but also a very erroneous mode of proceeding, as the finings, when thus made, will immediately coagulate upon being applied to the beer, and at once go to the top or bottom without producing the desired effect. It may be observed that hot water, warm beer, or even steam, when applied to isinglass, does not hasten the solution, but on the contrary, hardens it, converting it into a dense fibrous mass, from which very little fining can be obtained.

ROPINESS.

ALE and beer are sometimes liable, when long kept, to become thick and viscid, pouring out like oil. This defect is called ropiness. Beers, when long stored in the cask in a fined state, are liable to undergo this change, owing to the small portion of gelatine left in the beer. It is, therefore, more advisable to store beer in the *rough* or *unfined* state. Ropiness in this case proceeds from deficiency of tannin, and superabundance of gluten. Hops will supply tannin and thus effect a cure. Catechu,

which is almost all fine tanmin, might also be used ; but hops are to be preferred. Ropiness is often produced by the injudicious mixture of old and new beer.

OF HOP DREG IN THE WORTS.

MANY brewers bestow great care in preventing any of the dreg from the coolers running into the gyle-tuns with the worts. This is a mistaken caution, for it will be found that the hop dreg is a great preservative of the worts in the coolers, and when swept into the gyle-tun along with them, it acts as a preservative in the same way until the fermentation has commenced, and by thus preventing acidification, admits of a better fermentation than could possibly be produced if any unsoundness had taken place. It is well known that worts, while they remain on the hops, are much less liable to become tainted than when drained off. On the same principle, a little of the fecula of the hops is a preservative in the coolers ; and the greater the quantity that goes over, the less risk of taint, particularly when the dreg is kept floating about in the worts by agitation in the coolers. It may sometimes be necessary, when the worts have remained for some

time in the hop-back, to rouse gently the hops in the back, for the purpose of throwing over a little more of the fecula into the coolers than would otherwise have run over along with the worts. This, when once tried, we have no doubt will be adopted.

OF GREY BEER.

As many people are unacquainted with what is meant by Grey Beer, it may be necessary to describe its appearance. Most people, before drinking beer from a pewter-pot, blow off the frothy top, and if, on looking down, it appears quite black in the colour, they say it has a good face; on the contrary, if it exhibits a colour something like whey, it is pronounced to be Grey Beer, and is, of course, faulty. Grey Beer, when viewed in a glass by transmitted light, (that is, when looked through between the eye and the light,) may appear pretty bright, but never brilliant. When examined in the same way by reflected light, (that is, when the observer holds the glass before him with his back to the light,) its appearance will be grey or whey-coloured, and no good judge will drink it.

Greyness undoubtedly at all times denotes an imperfection either in the materials used, or in some part of the brewing process, for which no after remedy has, as far as we know, been yet discovered, at least without destroying the beer. There can be little doubt, however, but that it proceeds from a portion of imperfect starch, or rather perhaps hordein, remaining undissolved in the beer, for the chemical tests which have been applied confirm this opinion. Another confirmatory proof is, that distillers' wash (which is brewed principally from raw grain, with only a small portion of malt) is invariably of a greyish or whey colour after undergoing the process of fermentation. This arises no doubt from the imperfect action of the small quantity of diastase contained in the malt, on the excess of hordein contained in the raw grain. This being the case, there can be no doubt that ill-made malt, or the admixture of raw corn, will produce Grey Beer. An erroneous mode of making the extract will have the same effect.

If in the first mashing the temperature be not sufficiently brought up, so as to act properly upon the diastase, the extract must be imperfect. Should, on the contrary, the temperature be taken too high, the first tap will hang, that is, it will not drain clean off from the mash-tun. If taken much too high, the goods will set, as already explained. Many brewers think, that by using very high temperatures

in the last mash or for return worts, they get a little additional extract from the malt. This, if it be so, can only proceed from the solution of a small portion of the hordein, which is always more or less left in the malt, according to its quality, and which, without these high heats, would not be acted upon. This additional extract, however, will be found at all times more detrimental than useful, and should never therefore be attempted.

As any of the above-mentioned causes may produce Grey Beer, the greatest care and attention is absolutely necessary in making the extract. But if the rules as laid down in this treatise for mashing be strictly adhered to, none of the above-mentioned errors are likely to take place, and the risk of having Grey Beer will consequently be greatly diminished.

Beer, when brewed from malt which has not had time to get cool after being taken off the kiln, very generally becomes grey.

CASKS.

Seasoning new Casks for Use.

As new oak staves contain a considerable quantity of gallic acid and tannin (tannic acid), it is ad-

visible to remove these acids from new casks, lest they should impart a disagreeable flavour to any beer with which they may be at first filled. Many methods have been resorted to for *seasoning*, as it is technically called ; but after having tried most of them, we have found that the best and most certain way is to neutralise the acid by means of an alkali ; and for that purpose a solution of *quick lime* in warm water will be found perfectly efficient. Fill the casks with boiling water, into which introduce about 1 lb. of quick or unslacked lime in powder, which is more than the water can dissolve ; then immediately bung the casks close, and roll them about. Let this mixture remain in the casks two or three days, rolling them about occasionally. The casks may then be emptied, and the lime be carefully washed out with several changes of boiling water, after which the casks may be safely filled with beer. To those who choose to incur that expense, sub-carbonate of soda or potash may be used, perhaps rather more effectually ; but we think that quick lime, which, being cheaper, can be more easily obtained at all times, will be found sufficient for the purpose.

A *woody* flavour is sometimes given to casks, and is said to be derived from the *firing* of the cask by the coopers. All such casks should be well *grouted* after the firing, before being filled with beer.

Cleaning Musty or Stinking Casks.

When too much fire is applied in making up casks, it raises blisters in the interior of them. These blisters, if not removed, very soon produce mustiness from the filth which gathers under them. They should, therefore, be all cut out with the cooper's iron, and until this is done, the casks cannot be effectually sweetened. A solution of chloride of lime (bleaching powder) in boiling water will then have the desired effect. Put about twenty or thirty gallons of boiling water into a butt, or less in proportion for smaller casks; then throw in a few ounces of chloride of lime, according to the size of the cask, and then pour in an ounce of muriatic acid (spirit of salt mixed with water) to evolve the chlorine gas rapidly. Bung the casks closely as soon as possible, to prevent the escape of the chlorine gas. Roll the casks about, when the gas, by penetrating the pores of the wood, will very soon remove all remains of mustiness.

Tainted *vats* or backs are rendered sweet, and fit for use by washing with diluted sulphuric acid, and afterwards with lime water, and then pure water.

In the London porter breweries all the butts and other casks, if long kept and not sweet when returned, as from the country, are *steamed*, after being washed with boiling water. After the steam-

ing, in which the force of the steam is considerable, they are again washed with hot water.

It is a curious fact, that *musty* beer is generally bright : this circumstance is not easily accounted for.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

To any one who has attentively perused the foregoing pages, it will appear that want of success in brewing, must be due to other causes than those to which it is generally attributed, viz., the great uncertainty attending the process of fermentation.

If it be admitted that brewing is a chemical process, it must be subservient to the same laws which govern other chemical operations ; and, under precisely similar circumstances, the same effects will necessarily be produced.

If, therefore, we succeed in one instance, nothing but diversity in the materials used, atmospherical changes which may be counteracted, or in some part of the operations performed, can prevent our arriving invariably at the same results.

Fermentation is undoubtedly as delicate a process, and perhaps as little understood, as any other connected with chemistry ; but upon a regular and successful fermentation, or the contrary, must de-

pend the good or bad quality of the beer. Such trifling causes, however, affect this process, that a brewer must not only have a distinct and extensive knowledge of chemistry, but also be what is termed a good manipulator, with great skill in the operative department of the business, before he can reasonably expect to brew uniformly good beer.

How often do we hear brewers say, "We cannot account for our want of success in this brewing, as it was conducted in every respect precisely the same as one last year, and designed to produce the same kind of beer, which then turned out remarkably well." They never, however, think of the different state or temperature of the atmosphere, which, by requiring the worts to remain several hours longer in the coolers, may occasion *acidity*, and thus produce the difference in quality. A change in the construction of the utensils, may, from various causes, have an equally injurious effect; besides many other casualties.

As already stated, brewers possessing a good and accurate taste and smell, have a great advantage over those who in these respects are defective, as they are thereby enabled at once to discover acidity or unsoundness in the worts. Litmus paper, however, if properly employed, will in some measure compensate, as it also enables them to make the same discovery; after which, by immediately applying the proper remedies, the injurious effects may be obviated which would otherwise be produced.

The principal danger is always to be apprehended from electro-chemical or galvanic action ; which we have not as yet found any other means of counteracting, than by removing the cause. By this action, whenever it exists, we are opposed from the beginning to the end of the process ; and during its continuance, no regularity or command over the fermentation need be expected. We cannot, therefore, be too careful in the construction of new brewhouses, or in the alteration of older concerns, to avoid all mixtures of metals in connection with the utensils, and particularly with regard to the fermenting tuns.

This subject has been but very little attended to ; and we believe that we have been among the first to investigate and draw the attention of brewers to the injurious operation of electro-chemical action on the process of brewing ; and we trust that what we have now written, may be the means of inducing brewers assiduously to examine this matter. With this view, we cannot sufficiently recommend to them the use of the *Galvanometer*. Good manipulation also in the process of brewing, is quite as necessary as in any other chemical operation.

Many of our most eminent chemists are bad manipulators ; and have been, consequently, very apt to fail in exhibiting certain experiments. Even the great Sir Humphry Davy admitted that he himself was a bad manipulator, and we have heard that upon one occasion, after having frequently tried an

experiment and always failed, which he was quite certain must have succeeded if properly managed, he submitted the case, when accidentally in Edinburgh, to one of the chemists in that city. By him the experiment was immediately performed with success. Sir Humphry then remarked, that he had made more discoveries by his own bungling in manipulation, than in any other way; the failures having led to new results of a nature different from what he had anticipated.

Bad manipulation in brewing, although not likely to lead to any beneficial discoveries in that art, may be followed by equally bad effects, as in making chemical experiments. Many brewers, for instance, think it a matter of but little importance, should they be a few hours longer in making their extracts, at one time than at another. This, however, will frequently produce acidity in the worts, and consequently fretful or irregular fermentation. Others think that success in brewing depends wholly on the first taps or worts running brilliantly bright from the mash-tun, (a matter of no great importance,) and adopt measures for attaining that object, which are often very injurious.

Many other instances of carelessness and want of method might be quoted, which would sufficiently account for the various anomalies taking place in fermentation. Such *seemingly* unimportant matters, however, are seldom taken into account; and

want of success is attributed to causes over which it is supposed we have no control, and of course cannot understand. The same difficulty, indeed, occurs to experimenters in chemistry. A bad manipulator is often surprised by want of success in his experiments, when another operator, of scientific qualifications perhaps greatly inferior, is invariably successful.

To want of method, therefore, or bad manipulation, may be ascribed a great portion of the uncertainty which occurs in fermentation.

Another circumstance may here be taken into consideration. In making certain colours, a bright sky and a dry atmosphere are best adapted for producing brilliancy. The want of these auxiliaries in this country is so influential, that we are seldom able to rival the colours made in Italy, or in other countries possessing these important advantages. We find, however, that in countries possessing the necessary requisites for making colours, the process of brewing beer is seldom successful. This may proceed from a different state of the atmosphere producing acidity in the worts, more readily than in our more northern climates. We should accordingly, even in this country, avoid all exposure either of the worts or gyle-tuns to the solar rays, or even to much light.

Irregularity or want of uniformity in the process of fermentation, as before stated, proceeds from such

apparently trifling causes, as to make it quite impossible to enumerate or describe them. We may rest assured, however, that if we succeed in any one fermentation, every failure in our future processes must proceed from want of method, bad manipulation, or other impeding causes, which may be traced, and may unquestionably be removed.

But let us dismiss all pretended secrets, as well as adages, new hard names, old saws, and dogmas, which we are sorry to see still quoted as rules for guiding the maltster and the brewer, although these dogmas still appear in works written professedly for the purpose of giving scientific practical information, yet do they abound in such high-flown, mystical language, as would not only, by their obscurity, puzzle the reader to comprehend, but the authors themselves to explain, were they so required. Let us have done with all these sources of error and confusion; and instead of looking upon brewing as an art which proceeds without obedience to regular laws—differing, therefore, from every other chemical process—let us endeavour, with the advice and assistance of men of science, to trace out the laws by which this art *must* be governed: and thus effectually remove the reproach, that any ignorant pretender may be more successful than those who think themselves, and indeed who really are better acquainted with the subject. There is still in this art a great deal to learn: and although possessed of

moderate chemical knowledge ourselves, we have gratefully to acknowledge the advice, assistance, and information we have readily and uniformly received from every scientific gentleman to whom we have applied on the subject.

Instead, therefore, of throwing away money for the assistance promised by the secrets of empirics, let brewers adopt the superior plan of applying to men of science when any difficulty occurs, and we have little doubt they will be courteously received, and the required information be freely imparted. .

In the foregoing pages, we have endeavoured to explain every thing connected with the process of brewing, so far as we are yet acquainted with it ; and in language so plain, that we trust it will be intelligible to readers of every description. If we should have failed, the reader may rest assured that the obscurity does not proceed from any intentional reservation, but merely from inability to be as clear and explicit as we desire.

We hope that we have assisted in laying a foundation for scientific enquirers ; which, if properly employed, may lead to more uniform and certain results than have hitherto been thought to be attainable. And we do think that in the production of an article so indispensable to the working classes as beer is now considered, no exertion should be spared to produce it in all cases of the very best quality.

We have only further to add, that this treatise is based entirely on our own practice, without reference to the opinions of other writers on the subject ; during which, in many and various situations, we have had opportunities of seeing very different modes of working—and that in most instances we have found, that where brewing was not conducted successfully, causes existed which might be traced, and which, when traced, might be removed with certain advantage to the brewer ; and having stated only that which we have already ascertained to be true, we are persuaded that the whole will be confirmed by the results of well directed and scientific practice.

APPENDIX.

PRELIMINARY REMARKS.

IN the first edition of this work, tabular illustrations of different brewings were given. It has been suggested to the author, that a few detailed formulæ of processes of different brewings, from the beginning to the end, would afford better and more distinct information to young brewers, or those but little acquainted with the trade: this Appendix is principally introduced for that purpose.

Previously, however, to entering upon this subject, it may be necessary to state, that the first mashing temperatures in the brewery and distillery materially differ. In the brewery, according to law, malt alone must be used; in the distillery no such restriction is imposed. A certain portion of malt is absolutely necessary, that the starch of the unmalted corn may be converted by the diastase of the malt

into saccharine matter. The French chemists say, that one portion of diastase will convert 2000 of starch into saccharine matter : be this as it may, we know that distillers cannot succeed in making an extract, without a certain portion of malt in the admixture of the different corns they employ in their manufacture, or the grists, as they are technically called.

Although, however, much lower temperatures must be used in the distillery in the first instance, to avoid setting or coagulation, still the temperature must be gradually raised, until the point of saccharification is arrived at ; and the temperature of the taps will consequently be found to be nearly the same.

In the following processes, it must always be remembered, that the great desideratum is, in the first place, to avoid all unnecessary delay in any part of the operation ; in the second place, never to let any part of the same tap or wort remain in the underback or elsewhere, while the other part of it is being boiled ; and lastly, to make as good an extract as circumstances will permit to be made with safety.

It will be seen, that although we invariably commence with as stiff a mash as possible, the quantity is generally made up during the mashing, to three barrels per quarter. The gradual increase of temperature insures the certainty of arriving at the proper point of saccharification without any risk of

coagulation. The change of colour in the extract, and afterwards the white froth on the top of the mash, is an indication which cannot be mistaken, that the extract is then thoroughly made, and all further keeping up of temperature totally useless. This being the case, no other process could do more, and thus all pretended secrecy and mystery generally observed as to the proper mashing temperatures, are now fully disclosed and explained.

By thus commencing the process, we get about two-thirds of the whole extract of the malt in the first tap or wort, instead of only about one-half, when only two barrels of liquor per quarter are turned on; and the worts will be found fully strong enough, with proper management, for producing ale of almost any gravity which may be wanted.

If, therefore, we get in the first mash two-thirds of the extract, instead of only one-half, as by the other process, we must thus greatly facilitate our after proceedings, which is the great point aimed at. As we have now only left in the grains little more than one-third in place of one-half of the extract, the portion left being also of less gravity per barrel than it would otherwise have been, is therefore the more easily obtained in the after mashings. It must accordingly, we think, appear that by the mode of proceeding above recommended, we take the most safe and effectual means of procuring the best extracts.

If the extract be thoroughly made in the first mashing, the after temperatures of liquor are but of little consequence, at least if not taken too high; say not above 190° . By so doing, we run no risk of extracting from the malt those ingredients which could not improve the beer; for the after temperatures, therefore, we refer to the formulæ, and shall now proceed to the first, or what is called a party-gyle, where two sorts of beer are produced from the same brewing.

PARTY-GYLE.

IN this case there were three coppers, affording ample accommodation for any manner of working.

1st, or liquor copper, containing 120 barrels.

2nd, or wort copper, containing 140 barrels.

3rd, or little copper, containing 27 barrels.

Here the malt was all ground into sacks, and could of course be turned into the mash-tun at any time. Let it then be placed conveniently for throwing it into the tun, sack by sack, as soon as the mashing machine has been put in motion as afterwards described. Let the first copper, either the previous evening, or very early in the morning you

intend brewing, be charged with about 100 barrels of liquor; bring this to boil, and let it boil for some little time, to soften the water, by depositing the carbonate of lime contained in it: bring it then down with cold liquor to the temperature of 180° . As a good many degrees in temperature are lost in running the liquor from the copper into the mash-tun, it is necessary to keep it higher in the copper, so as to prevent the possibility of its being too low in the mash-tun. We begin the process at 7 o'clock, morning, with 30 quarters pretty good pale malt, weighing $41\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. per bushel. Morning 7—Turn from the copper into the mash-tun $52\frac{1}{2}$ barrels of liquor, being one barrel and three firkins for every quarter of malt. If the liquor be above 168° in the mash-tun, stir it about until it comes to that temperature, you may at the same time set the mashing machine in motion, which tends to make the temperature uniform. When the liquor in the tun arrives at the proper heat 168° , stop the mashing machine, and begin to turn your malt from the sacks into the tun. It is necessary in doing so to have three or four men with rakes or shovels, to mix the malt thoroughly with the liquor, as it is thrown into the tun. If the mash becomes too stiff to manage with the rakes, set the machine again in motion, and you may, if necessary, turn on a little more liquor.

The copper should in the mean time be allowed

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to be gaining a little in temperature, while the mashing is still going on. When the first infusion is well mixed, and the liquor in the copper has attained a temperature of from 185° to 190° , the copper should still be rising in heat, but not above 195° ; turn on again from the copper from under the false bottom in the mash-tun, letting the liquor run very gently so as to gradually raise the temperature of the tun, at the same time making the mashing machine move as briskly as possible. The appearance of the extract, when you commence turning on in this way, will be a milky white; as the infusion goes on, it will soon become more transparent, and when looked down upon will have the same appearance as beer when looked at in the same way: you may now let the liquor run more rapidly, and in a short time the top of the mash will be covered with a fine thick froth. We thus know, as before stated, that the extract is thoroughly made, and when thus made, all further keeping up of temperature is totally useless, and may by condensing the steam be injurious; but as this is to be a party-gyle, we do not take so much liquor in the first mash as we would otherwise do. Say, therefore, let the water still run until you have 75 barrels, or two and a-half barrels per quarter, after which mash about ten minutes longer. Then cover up the tun and let it stand one hour, which is quite sufficient. The liquor copper, in the

mean time, should be again charged up with liquor, and brought to the proper temperature for going on with the after mashings. The mash having stood its time, let the worts now run from the mash-tun into the under-back. The average heat of the tap should be 148° to 152° ; they should drain off in about 45 minutes, and there should be from 45 to 47 barrels at 35 or 36 lbs. gravity, per ong's instrument.

Get 23 barrels of this first tap into the little copper for ale to be made 42 lbs. per barrel, and immediately afterwards get the remaining 24 barrels into the large wort-copper, at the same time throwing in a few hops. On trying a sample of the worts, we find they weigh 36 lbs. gravity.

If you multiply, therefore, 36, the lbs. gravity per barrel, by 23, the number of barrels in the copper, it will give 828. This, however, is the aggregate gravity as calculated when reduced to a temperature of 60° , without making any allowance for evaporation and condensation. The late Mr. Richardson, of Hull, has given accurate calculations for the necessary deductions to be made; but as we find that by deducting 10 per cent. we come near enough the truth for practice, and have also less trouble, this mode, which also makes allowance for the quantity retained by the hops, has been adopted.

Having therefore a fallacious gravity of	828
Deduct 10 per cent.	85
	<hr/>
Real gravity to go into gyle-tun	743

As we intend to make the beer 42 lbs. gravity per barrel, we must now find out what number of barrels of 42 lbs. can be produced from 743; divide, therefore, by 42 the required strength, which will leave 17 barrels and three firkins. Having thus ascertained that we shall have about 18 barrels of ale, now throw the necessary quantity of hops into the copper, calculating by so many lbs. per barrel: this may be 4, 5 or 6 lbs. per barrel, or even more, according to the public taste, and the length of time the beer is intended to be kept. For beer of this gravity, however, there should never be less than from 4 to 5 lbs. per barrel: we shall here take $4\frac{1}{2}$ lbs., which will be 81 lbs.

We have next to calculate what number of barrels must be turned out of the copper so as to have about 18 barrels in the gyle-tun. There are now in the copper, with the addition of the hops, about $24\frac{1}{2}$ barrels. The hops will retain nearly one barrel and a-half, and rather more than two barrels will be evaporated on the coolers, in all $3\frac{1}{2}$ barrels; add, therefore, $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 18, which makes $21\frac{1}{2}$. Three barrels, therefore, must be evaporated in boiling, leaving $21\frac{1}{2}$ to be turned into the coolers.

We must now return to the brewing which we

left, the remainder of the first worts being then pumping into the larger wort copper. The water in the liquor copper having now got up to 185° , let run *over* the malt, not under as in the first mash, $1\frac{1}{4}$ barrels per quarter or $37\frac{1}{2}$ barrels. This may be done by means of a shute and canvas hose. Turn on gently at first, so as to make the liquor find its way through the grains : a deal board should also be placed on the top of the grains or malt where the liquor is running, to prevent its making a hole in the malt, so as to raise without penetrating it. If the malt be of good quality, the grains will in the course of 10 or 15 minutes rise through the water ; and as soon as this happens, the extract may be let run into the underback pretty smartly, so as to drain off in half an hour. If the grains do not rise, they must be roused with the mashing-machine. This second mash should be pumped as speedily as possible into the large wort copper, among the 24 barrels of first worts already there. Get on the fire now as briskly as possible. Lose no time in proceeding with the third mash, and for that purpose turn over the grains as before directed, $15\frac{1}{2}$ barrels at 160° . This may also be let run as soon as it has disappeared through the goods in the mash-tun, and be pumped, as before directed, into the copper. The whole of this process should not occupy more than five hours. As soon as the mash-tun is drained off, turn on 70 barrels for raw or

return wort for next brewing, at any temperature from 140° to 170° , the mode of treating which will be afterwards explained. We now dip the wort copper, and find that we have by gauge $77\frac{1}{2}$ barrels of wort: rouse it thoroughly, so as to mix completely the different taps; having then taken a sample, we find the average gravity to be 22.5 lbs. per barrel when taken at a temperature of 60° . Multiply, therefore, the number of barrels 77.5 by 22.5, the product will be 1743.7, from which deduct 10 per cent., say 174 — the remainder will be 1569.7. The desired strength of the beer to be produced is 26 lbs. per barrel—divide, therefore, 1569.7 by 26, which gives 60 barrels and 9.7. Throw now into the copper 120 lbs. of hops, being two pounds per barrel. How many barrels must be turned out of the copper to leave 60 in the gyle-tun? Two barrels will be retained by the hops, and 10 per cent. will be evaporated in cooling or 7 barrels; add, therefore, 9 to 60, making 69: the boiling must, therefore, be continued until only 69 barrels are left in the copper.

We now return to the raw wort: 70 barrels had been turned over; let the mashing-machine go round the tun a few turns, then let the worts run, and pump them into the first or liquor copper as soon as possible—73 barrels. Bring them to boil. Their gravity may be 2 lbs. per barrel, or 146 lbs.: add the hops of the other boilings when the worts

are drained off; you will gain from the hops of the best ale about 56 lbs., being the strength of one barrel and one-third retained by them, and from the second 52 lbs., the strength of 2 barrels retained by them. Bring the whole again to boil. Before being used, they must be run through the hop-back into the under-back, and again pumped into the copper, where we shall now find perhaps only 65 barrels at 4·5 gravity—292·5.

To old brewers, or those well acquainted with the trade, the above details may appear too minute and prolix; but as this Appendix, as already stated, is principally intended for beginners, we have thought it necessary to be thus minute for their instruction. We shall now proceed to the fermentation of the two qualities of the beer, beginning with the stronger.

Fermentation of the Best Ale.

Monday evening, 3 o'clock.—The wort in the cooler having now got to a temperature of 70°, weigh 5 lbs. of fine lively stillion yeast, which mix in a pail or bucket with a gallon of the worts; as soon as this mixture begins to work up or rise in the pail, let two barrels of the worts run into the fermenting tun, into which throw the yeast from the pail, stirring it about so as to thoroughly mix. This is called pitching. When the remainder of the worts in the cooler get to a temperature of 60°, weigh out 75

lbs. more of the same yeast, which mix up with worts in a stand, so as to be rising, as before-mentioned. We now want to have all the worts in the gyle-tun, which, when mixed, shall be at a temperature of 52° . No specific directions can be given for this purpose, as in some brewhouses the worts lose more heat in a short time than in others, and also in running from the coolers to the gyle-tun : a little practice, however, will enable any one to judge for himself, according to circumstances.

As the worts continue running down, take a sample for weighing, and go on adding a little more yeast from the stand, until the whole has been used.

When the worts are all down, gauge them with the dipping rod, and after rousing well to mix the yeast, cover and close the tun.

We find by gauge that we have 18 barrels, weighing 42 lbs. per barrel.

Tuesday morning, 6 o'clock.—Rising with a fine healthy curl—heat $53\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$. Evening, 6.—Rising to a fine rocky, light yeasty head, the stomach or aroma smelling quite sound and healthy : heat 57° .

Wednesday morning, 6 o'clock.—All right, the light yeasty head having dropped during the night, was now rising to a fine close yeasty head, with numerous little bright air-bells breaking and puffing out gas ; heat 65° , attenuated to $29\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Evening, 1.—Still rising vigorously, and all right ; heat

70°; add 5 lbs. of yeast treated as before. Evening, 11.—A fine close yeasty head as before described; the stomach sound, pungent, and highly aromatic: heat 75°, attenuated to 19 lbs. cleansed.

Fill up the casks every hour with the beer thrown out from the casks into the stillions, for the first eight hours, by which time it will have got pretty steady; it may afterwards be filled up occasionally for two days more. In throwing off the yeast, it will be found that the beer has attenuated 5 lbs. more, being now at 14, or one-third its original gravity, which is quite right. For further directions, see Storing and Keeping Beer.

Fermentation of Second Ale.

Monday evening.—On proceeding as directed for the Best Ale, we find we have 60 barrels at 26·2 per barrel. When the worts get down to a temperature of 75°, pitch as before directed, with 10 lbs. of yeast, and 3 barrels of worts; get all into the gyle-tun at a temperature of 58°, adding 140 lbs. more of yeast treated as directed in the first process.

Tuesday, 6 A. M.—Just beginning to curl; no heat gained. 6 P. M.—Rising to a fine rocky head, stomach sound and healthy; heat 66°. Wednesday, 6 A. M.—The light yeasty head just beginning to drop, heat 66°, attenuated to 18 lbs.; added 6 lbs. of yeast rising in the pail. 11 A. M.—Rising to a

fine close yeasty head and all right. 3 P. M.—All right, heat 72° , attenuated to 12 lbs. cleansed; fill up as before directed, and when done working in the casks, the ale will be down to 9 lbs. gravity.

In all healthy sound fermentations, allowance must be made when cleansing for the additional attenuation in the cleansing casks.

We must now calculate what number of lbs. gravity we have obtained per quarter from the malt.

18 barrels in best ale at 42° make 756

60 do. in 2nd ale at $26\cdot2$ do. 1572

65 do. in raw wort at $4\cdot5$ do. 292\cdot5

Divide by number of qrs. used 30)2620\cdot5(87\cdot3

per quarter, leaving out fractions.

The rule for the quantities to be turned out of the copper, so as to produce the required number of barrels in the gyle-tun, as described in the foregoing process, if the copper be truly and rightly gauged, will always approximate nearly enough to the truth for practice, making allowance for the difference of evaporation on the coolers, according to the state of the atmosphere. If more than the usual evaporation takes place, the quantity will be less, but the worts will be proportionally stronger, and vice versâ.

We often, however, find coppers so inaccurately gauged as to make a difference of 4 or 5 barrels or more. In following this rule, therefore, it is indispensably necessary that the copper should be accu-

rately gauged. The simplest and best mode of doing so is to fill the copper brim-full with water, and having found a cask which contains precisely 36 gallons, or a barrel of liquid, take out one of the ends of it; you must then procure an unmarked wooden rod, long enough to reach the bottom of the copper; a piece of board must then be placed on the top of the copper, stretching out so as to conduct the rod perpendicularly to the bottom. Great mistakes are often made by not attending to this rule. The copper must then be run off barrel by barrel, very accurately, and at every barrel the rod should be dipped to the bottom of the copper, and a notch made where the water cuts the rod, barrel by barrel. This gives an accurate dipping-rod for the wet dip, and by reversing it and placing a piece of cork as usual on the other end, we have a dry dipping-rod.

In small coppers for private brewings, the same rule may be adopted, by marking the rod at every 1, 2, 3, or 5 gallons, as circumstances may require.

FURTHER REMARKS ON BOILING.

BEFORE proceeding with the directions for the next brewing, in which there are two boilings of the

worts with only one copper, it may be necessary to give some information respecting the most eligible mode under these circumstances of boiling.

The practice of extensive brewers, during the last century, was to have generally three boilings of the worts in every brewing. The first was called the hop-wort ; the second the jack-wort, and the third, the blue-wort. At that time, what are now termed raw or return worts, were but little known, and of course, seldom employed. It was therefore necessary, they considered, to have three boilings, in order to get the best possible extract from the malt ; and perhaps they were right. Now, however, when the mode of making extracts *begins* to be much better understood, three boilings in the same brewing are seldom resorted to, excepting by those who obstinately adhere to the old practice, which has no other claim to adoption than its antiquity.

It has been already stated, that all delay in the process of brewing should as far as possible be avoided. Three boilings must necessarily occupy more time than two, and two boilings more time than one ; if therefore the position be allowed, (of which there can be no doubt,) that all delays are dangerous in the process of brewing, one boiling is safer than two, and two safer than three.

No particular objection can be made to two boilings at any time, where that may be found necessary : as we shall be able to shew that by proper

management, and even with only one copper, the process may be so conducted, that none of the taps need lie any length of time either in the underback or elsewhere, before being conducted to the copper. One boiling, however, is always the safest in summer brewing.

Let the brewings be made of shorter lengths, and the more frequent the better, so as that the yeast may be always preserved in good order.

With only one copper, three boilings must invariably produce unsoundness to a certain extent, in hot weather.

We have, however, encountered individuals so confident in error, as to insist that they must and would brew the same quantities of malt which they had been accustomed to do, and that with only one copper totally inadequate for the purpose ; by which mode of proceeding they invariably produced very unsound beer.

With smaller brewings of only half the quantity of malt, the worts were boiled in one operation, and the beer turned out well ; and the trade did not require more than two of these smaller brewings per week. See "Summer Brewing."

ONE COPPER TWO BOILINGS.

A Brewing with only one Copper, containing twenty-five Barrels where two Boilings are necessary.

THE great desideratum, in this case, is to get on with the process with the least possible delay, and to let no part of the worts remain longer than is absolutely necessary, between the mash-tun and the copper. As beer of from 24 to 27 lbs. gravity per barrel is now very generally wanted, we shall take here 24 lbs. for our standard, having no mashing-machine.

The copper having been previously brought to boil, the water should now be cooled to a temperature of 180° , by adding what may be necessary of cold water for that purpose. Eight quarters of tolerably good malt standing in sacks near the mash-tun, weight 40 lbs. per bushel.

Commence brewing at seven o'clock in the morning. Let run into mash-tun 14 barrels at 180° ; stir it about until it gets down to 170° ; then turn your malt into the tun, sack by sack, thoroughly mixing it with oars and rakes, as you proceed. If the mash should become too stiff for working, run one barrel or two barrels, if found necessary, from under the false bottom of your mash-tun into the mash; this will enable you to infuse all your malt. Now get on your fire until your water in the copper

reaches 185° , when you may damp the fire so as to be acquiring a little more heat ; it is necessary, during this time, to be going on mashing, and for some one to break with a stick, or any other instrument which may be applicable for the purpose, all the lumps or knots of uninfused malt, as they are brought up to the surface. Now turn on from the copper, still from under the false bottom, letting the water run very gently, (and still mashing, now as vigorously as possible, so as to diffuse the heat more regularly,) until the milky white appearance of the extract has disappeared, and been succeeded by greater transparency, when you may let the water run more quickly. In a short time the mash will be covered with a white froth ; the extract is now thoroughly made. Let your liquor run, and keep mashing until you have turned over, in all, twenty-four barrels, or three barrels per quarter, when, after mashing about ten minutes longer, at the same time going round the bottom of the mash-tun with your oars, you may cover up the mash. Since writing the above in the first edition, it has been found that covering up the mash so as to prevent the escape of steam is injurious, as can be easily proved. All this should occupy a space of not more than three-quarters of an hour. Let the mash stand an hour and a-half or less, then let the worts run, not over quickly, into the under-back. You should, in the mean time, have your copper charged with liquor for next

mash ; and should any boiling liquor be wanted for scalding your utensils, &c., now is the time to procure it. When the mash-tun has been quite drained off, take for your second mash only the necessary quantity of liquor to make up your first boiling. You should have in the under-back not more than sixteen or seventeen barrels, your malt not having been of first-rate quality. Let four barrels, therefore, run gently over the top of the malt, sprinkling it all over, either from a canvas hose or a sparging-machine, if you have got one. As soon as the liquor disappears through the grains, which will be very shortly, let it run into the under-back, making twenty-one barrels for first boiling. Go on now as quickly as possible with your third mash ; let twelve barrels, at any temperature not exceeding 170° , or below 150° , run over the goods, as before directed, and "immediately get your first worts into the copper, at the same time carrying on the fire as briskly as possible, add 52 lbs. of hops, or two lbs. per barrel for the quantity of beer to be produced." We return again to the mash-tun. If the water has all disappeared, and the grains are floating on the surface, no mashing is necessary ; if not, they must be again roused by mashing. Let this mash stand until your first worts begin to boil, then let them run gently, so as to keep pace nearly with your boiling ; when drained off, take cold liquor to make up your second worts, and to wash out any little saccharine matter remaining in the grains. In this case, sprinkle

four barrels over the grains, and let it run briskly as soon as it disappears through the grains. The first worts, having now boiled one hour and fifteen minutes, may be discharged or turned out, as it is termed, from the copper for cooling. Get your second worts up as soon as possible, rouse them well, and take a sample for weighing; add the hops from first worts when drained. In the first worts we had twenty-one barrels in the copper, at 26 lbs., when reduced to a temperature of 60°.

Multiply 26 lbs. by 21 bls., making 546

Deduct 10 per cent. 55

Leaving, of real gravity in gyle-tun 491

After boiling, and the loss in quantity by evaporation and condensation on the coolers, we find that we should have in the gyle-tun 16 barrels at 31 lbs. gravity, or 496.

On gauging the second worts in the copper, we find 17 barrels of 8 lbs. gravity, at 60°.

Multiply 17 by 8, making.....136

Deduct, as before, 10 per cent. 14

122

Add 28 lbs. from hops of 1st worts 28

Add gravity of first worts496

Div. by required grav. pr. bl. 24)646(^{Br.}26^{Flr.} 3

leaving out fractional parts.

We have sixteen barrels of first worts, and there-

fore require ten barrels and three firkins of second worts to make up the required quantity—what number of barrels should be turned out of copper?

	Bs.	F.	G.
Wanted $10\frac{3}{4}$	10	3	0
Add retained by hops	0	3	4
Evaporation, &c. on coolers ...	1	1	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	12	3	4

You must therefore turn out of the copper, in round numbers, thirteen barrels by gauge.

We find, in the fermenting tun, 26·5 barrels at 24·2, making 641·3 lbs. of gravity: the previously calculated gravity being 646, not one per cent. difference.

This is quite near enough for practice. It will be seen, that in the above process of making the extract, none of the worts can possibly get tainted from lying too long in the underback, or elsewhere, and this mode of procedure is calculated to make the best possible extract from the malt which circumstances will permit. If all is right, the fermentation will go on regularly, as before described; if it does not, the cause of failure must be traced and removed.

To find the gravity per quarter, divide 641·3 by 8, the number of quarters used: $8 \div 641 \cdot 3 = 80 \cdot 1$, omitting fractions.

ONE COPPER ONE BOILING.

A Brewing of ten quarters, with mashing machine, with only one copper, large enough, however, to contain all the worts in one boiling, or fifty barrels.

TEN quarters of good malt, with a shade of colour, weighing 42 lbs. per bushel. The copper having been brought to boil, and allowed to boil for some time, should be nearly full, leaving room only for cooling down, with cold liquor, to a proper temperature. If the malt hopper be so constructed as to run the malt into the mash-tun at any time, it is better to run the first liquor into the tun previously to the malt being put into the mash-tun, allowing it to come down to its proper temperature in the tun; the malt may then be run into the tun gradually, while the mashing is going on. The malt in this instance had been previously placed in the tun.

Ale of twenty-six pounds' Gravity.

7 A.M.—Turn on eighteen barrels, at 169°, allowing the copper to be gaining in heat at the same time: mash until the malt is all thoroughly mixed with the liquor, fifteen minutes or more, if necessary. Liquor in copper now at 185°; turn on gently from under false bottom; this is certainly better than sparging or sprinkling, at all events, in

this stage of the process, as the heat, by rising gradually from the bottom, will be more equally distributed than when sprinkled on from above ; at the same time go on mashing, the machine must be going round as quickly as possible. As we have in this instance a large quantity to use, the liquor in the copper should not be allowed at any time to exceed 185° or 186° , so as to bring the heat of the taps to the proper medium, viz., 148° to 152° . As soon as the milky white colour of the extract has disappeared, and been succeeded by greater transparency, let the liquor run on more quickly ; in a short time the mashing will be covered with the white froth ; keep on mashing until you have turned on in all thirty barrels of liquor, or three barrels per quarter ; when, after a couple of rounds of the machine, you may leave off. Let the tap stand one hour and a-half ; then let the worts run from the mash-tun into the underback ; this should be about half-past nine : when drained off, we find in the underback twenty-two barrels, at 30 lbs. gravity.

If warm water be wanted for scalding the utensils, or other purposes, the interval occupied by the standing and running of the first mash, is the proper time for preparing it, taking care, however, to leave enough in the copper, at the proper temperature, for the brewing, so as not, in any way, to delay the process.

10 A.M.—Now let run over the malt in the mash-tun, not from under the false bottom as done in the

first mash, fifteen barrels of liquor, at a temperature of 185°. As soon as the goods have risen, let the worts run into the underback, upon the first tap. It sometimes happens with inferior malt, or too low grinding, that the grains will not rise, in which case they must be roused by the mashing machine. The second mash produces fifteen barrels and a-half, at 18 lbs.; and as the temperature is considerably higher than the first worts, it also raises their temperature, which tends to prevent their getting tainted; a few handfuls of hops should be sprinkled over them in the underback. There should now be left in the copper only the quantity to be used for next mash, say eight barrels, at any temperature below 165°. Now (11 o'clock) turn these eight barrels over the goods as before, and immediately pump the worts from the underback into the copper; let the eight barrels run as before directed, and pump them into the copper as they run from the mash-tun into the underback. Now, as there is no raw wort, run two or three barrels of cold liquor over the goods or grains in the mash-tun, to wash out any little saccharine which may remain.

When we have got all in copper, we find—
 Forty-seven barrels at 22·3—or . . . 1048·1
 From which deduct 10 per cent. . . . 109·1

Divide by 26, strength required
 per barrel 26)939·0(36
 and 3 lbs. over.

We must now, as before, calculate what number of barrels must be turned out of the copper, so as that 36 may go into the gyle-tun. We use 2 lbs. of hops per barrel, 94 lbs., which will increase the quantity in the copper to $48\frac{1}{2}$ barrels, and these will retain one barrel and a-half, or rather more, and about eight barrels will be evaporated on the coolers.

Wanted	36
Add for evaporation and condensation	8
Retained by hops	$1\frac{1}{2}$
	<hr/>
Turn therefore out of copper	$45\frac{1}{2}$ brls.

We find, in the gyle-tun, thirty-six barrels one firkin, at 26 lbs. gravity, or nearly so, at least correct enough for practice.

Multiply the number of barrels in tun	36
By the gravity	26·2
	<hr/>

Div. by the number of quarters malt $10)943\cdot2(94\cdot3$
gravity per quarter.

For process of fermentation, see page 169,
"SECOND ALE."

PLAIN DIRECTIONS TO PRIVATE FAMILIES FOR BREWING THEIR OWN BEER.

For a Brewing of Eight Bushels.

IN private or family brewing it is quite as necessary to adhere to the general rules laid down in the foregoing pages as it is in a large establishment. Families commonly brew only twice a year, in October and March. It has been already stated, that malt which has been kept over the summer, is liable to get slack or moist from exposure to the atmosphere, and that such malt will almost invariably produce unsound beer. Private families, therefore, cannot be too careful in selecting their malt for October brewing. If they must brew with malt of the above description, they should insist, that before delivery, it should be again dried upon the kiln, so as to expel the moisture, even although it should cost them two shillings per quarter more ; or, they may delay their brewing until good new malt can be procured. The March brewings are frequently better than those in October, from the above-mentioned precaution not being attended to. The brewing vessels also are liable to get tainted from being long out of use, it would therefore be advisable to scald them out before brewing, with hot

water and a little chloride of lime (bleaching powder). By adhering strictly to the following directions, they will run less risk of their worts being tainted than when more time is occupied in the process.

The day previous to the commencement of brewing, examine all the utensils very carefully, and be sure that they have been thoroughly scalded and scrubbed. On the morning of the day on which you intend to brew, having nearly filled your boiler with water, make the water boil, and continue the boiling for some time. This may be done the day previously; the object being to soften the water, particularly when its principal impurity is owing to carbonate of lime. If the water is hard, or containing sulphate of lime, which curdles soap even when boiled, an alkali, such as sub-carbonate of potash, (salt of tartar,) or subcarbonate of soda, may be thrown into the water, in the proportion of not more than one ounce to a barrel or thirty-six gallons: this will sufficiently soften such water.

Morning 7 o'clock.—The water in the boiler being now at a temperature of 180° F., let run into your mash-tun one barrel and a-half, or about 7 gallons of water to each bushel of malt: stir this about until it acquires a temperature of 170° , then commence the gradual addition of your malt; taking care to mix it thoroughly with the water by means of oars and rakes, as it goes into the tun. When

the mash is too thick for stirring, add a little more water, letting it run slowly, say half a barrel, or about two gallons per bushel, at a temperature of 180° ; this will enable you to infuse the remainder of your malt. Let your copper in the meantime be gaining heat until it reaches 190° ; then damp your fire. If you have the means of doing so, let your liquor at 190° run very gently from under the false bottom of your mash-tun. If you cannot let it run from below, it must be sprinkled over the top of the mash, by means of a watering-pot such as is used by gardeners for watering plants. You should in the meantime continue mashing as quickly as possible.

As soon as the milky whiteness of the extract disappears and is succeeded by greater transparency, let the water run or be sprinkled on more quickly, when in a short time the white froth will make its appearance all over the tun. Your extract is now thoroughly made. If your malt be of the best quality, you may take in this way for your first mash, in all, three barrels of water per quarter, or $13\frac{1}{2}$ gallons per bushel.

Having now done mashing, sprinkle a little dry ground malt over the top of the mash, and cover up the tun. Let it so stand for one hour and a-half; then set tap, as it is technically called, or, in other words, let your worts run from the mash-tun to the under-back.

The boiler should in the meantime be again nearly filled with liquor, and brought as speedily as possible to a temperature of 185°.

When the mash-tun is quite drained off, proceed immediately with your second mash, the liquor in your boiler being now at 185°, which is the best temperature, but do not delay your process for the difference of a few degrees. Turn on, *over*, not *under*, the malt, very gently at first, so as to let the liquor find its way down through the malt as you proceed, one barrel and a-half per quarter, or nearly 7 gallons to a bushel. Should any remain in the boiler, let it run to waste, or retain it for some other purpose. Lose no time now in pumping or getting your first tap or worts into the boiler, where you should find rather more than 2 barrels at 30 lbs. gravity per Long's instrument : to this add 9 lbs. of hops or 6 lbs. per barrel (for the ale to be produced) or more, if highly-hopped beer is wanted. Get your copper to boil as soon as possible, and keep it boiling for an hour and fifteen minutes, then turn your worts out through the hop-back into the coolers.

We now return to the second mash in the mash-tun. Should the malt have risen up through the liquor on the top, no farther mashing will be necessary ; but if it does not rise, it must be stirred up by ears or rakes. Let this mash stand until your first worts begin to boil ; then let it run gently, so as to

keep pace nearly with your boiling. As soon as this is drained, sprinkle over the malt, with your watering-can, about half a barrel of cold water, or a little more than two gallons per bushel ; let this run as soon as it disappears through the grains. When your copper is discharged of the first worts, get your second into it as speedily as possible, and keep on boiling ; add the hops from the first worts as soon as they are drained. Boil this second wort from one hour and a-half to two hours, at your own option. That long boiling acts as a preservative to the beer, in any other way than increasing the strength by evaporation, is quite a mistake.

The above process is given on the supposition that your brewing utensils are large enough for the purpose. If they be not, it is better to brew a smaller quantity of malt, which will then enable you to proceed as above directed. The reasons for this alteration are obvious : none of your worts with the diminished quantity are allowed to remain any length of time between the mash-tun and the copper ; an arrangement which prevents their getting tainted, as is too often the case, when otherwise treated ; necessarily destroying the whole of the beer.

We shall now proceed to the fermentation, beginning, of course, with the first worts or strong ale.

We found in the copper rather more than two barrels at 30 lbs. gravity : this quantity, by the waste in boiling and by the evaporation and condensation

in the coolers, will now be reduced in the fermenting tun to about one barrel and a-half, or a hogs-head. As no saccharine matter, however, is lost by evaporation, either in boiling or cooling, the *strength* or gravity will now be rather above 40 lbs. per long. or 1.112 specific gravity, by Allan's or Bates' instruments, (described at p. 158,) which is quite strong enough for any kind of ale.

It is difficult to say what is the proper temperature at which to commence fermentation on a scale so small. If, however, an uniform temperature of 55° to 60° can be preserved in the tun-room, it will be desirable, as ale of this strength should never be placed in the tun, at a higher temperature than 54° or 55°; but if from the situation of your brewhouse it be subjected to all the different fluctuations of the atmosphere, particularly in winter, the worts, if got together at so low a temperature, may, perhaps, lose as much as 5 or 6 degrees before fermentation can begin: in this case fermentation will hardly commence at all, or if it does, will go on so sluggishly as to prevent the possibility of ultimately arriving at the proper attenuation, unless the temperature be raised as directed, p. 117. This, therefore, is a point upon which no definite or certain directions can be given; and the operator must of necessity be left to his own judgment.

The great rule by which we ought to be governed, is—never at any period of the fermentation to admit

such high temperatures as to be carrying on what is called the *acetous* instead of the *vinous* fermentation. It is still disputed, and must always remain a delicate question among chemists, at what temperature the *acetous* fermentation commences; but at or under 75°, or, perhaps, even a few degrees higher, little or no risk can be run; it is, therefore, desirable to keep within the limit of 75°. In all cases of this kind, therefore, the proper temperature at which the worts must be got together in the fermenting tun, must depend on such circumstances as can only be judged of by the brewer.

Let us suppose that the worts, when placed in the fermenting tun, are at a medium temperature, or at 58°: thus leaving opportunity for an increase in temperature of 18 or 19 degrees before cleansing or tunning. Let a sufficient quantity of good, sound, lively yeast, be procured, and when the worts in the coolers fall to a temperature of 70°, mix two pounds of the said yeast with a little of the worts at that temperature, contained in a pail. As soon as the mixture begins to rise, let 10 gallons of the worts run into your fermenting tun, into which throw your yeast so rising. This is called pitching. Rouse it about until it is thoroughly mixed; then take six pounds more of the same yeast, and mix it with worts in a pail as before-directed, so as to let it begin to rise in the pail before using. If it begin to flow over the pail before the worts have arrived at the

proper temperature of 62° or 63°, pour a little of it into the fermenting tun. When you begin to let your worts run so as to have your mean temperature at 62°, throw in the remainder of the yeast: and when the worts are all collected, stir the whole again until it is thoroughly mixed. It is requisite on this small scale to cover the tun so as to retain the heat.

If your worts be sound, and your yeast also sound and lively, the fermentation should now go on as described at page 167, under the head of "Best Ale Fermentation;" and your ale should be ready for tunnng on the third morning after brewing. Should the weather be cold, scald your cleansing casks with a little boiling water, just before cleansing; this will prevent your beer being chilled, which would retard its working. Fill up the casks, from the beer thrown off, every hour for the first eight hours, after which draw off what beer may still remain in your stillions; which, if put into an open-headed, broad vessel, will soon get pretty clear. Fill up the casks occasionally with this beer for two days more, and for all further directions refer to page 129, on "Storing and Keeping Beer."

We shall now proceed with the fermentation of the *second worts*. We had in the copper rather more than two barrels, at a gravity of 13½ lbs., which when boiled and cooled down like the others, will also leave a hogshead of beer to go into the fermenting tun. This beer will now be of 18 lbs.

gravity per barrel, by Long's instrument ; or 1.050 specific gravity, by Allan's.

When at a temperature of 75°, pitch as before directed, with 10 gallons of worts and 2 lbs. of yeast ; get all into the tun at a temperature of about 68°, adding 2 lbs. more yeast, treated as before directed. Cover up the tun, and cleanse the beer, at the third change, or when it has risen to a light yeasty head ; proceeding to fill up, as before directed for the ale ; and look at " Storing and Keeping," for further directions. We trust we have now given such explicit and ample directions for brewing on a small scale, as will enable any private family to brew even the small quantity of one bushel, with certainty. It must be observed, however, that in very small brewings, the temperature for adding the yeast to the stronger beer must be 6 or 7 degrees higher than in larger brewings.

Should the fermentation at any time get too cold, proceed as directed, p. 117.

The quantities of water to be used in the above brewings, are stated both in barrels per qr., and gallons per bushel of malt ; if, therefore, two or more qrs. are to be used, take your quantities of liquor by barrels per qr. ; if smaller quantities, such as two, three, or four bushels, take your quantities of liquor by gallons per bushel, as above directed.

SACCHAROMETER.

ALL Saccharometers now in use are graduated to a scale of barrels containing 36 imperial gallons each. If gravities, therefore, be reckoned by barrels containing only 32 gallons, the calculations must be very erroneous. An Irish barrel contains only 32 gallons, and yet many brewers in Ireland, in calculating the gravities obtained from the malt, multiply by their own barrels, and thus persuade themselves that they are getting much greater lengths than the malt could possibly produce. Thus, suppose brewing 30 qrs. of malt, they have 100 Irish barrels in the gyle-tun at 30 lbs. gravity per Long's instrument (which is equal to 83·4 by Bates's), they reckon they have 3,000 lbs., or 100 lbs. per qr. Instead of this, however, they have 400 gallons less than 100 barrels, leaving only within a fraction of 89 imperial barrels; they ought, therefore, to multiply 89 by 30, which would make only 2,670, instead of 3,000 lbs. Divide, therefore, 2,670 by 30, which will give the true gravity per qr., or 89 lbs., instead of 100 per Long's instrument (or 247·4 by Allan's or Bates').

Saccharometers which have been long in use will, from the friction used in cleaning them, become lighter, and consequently show considerably higher

gravities than those actually produced. This is a point seldom thought of. They should, therefore, be occasionally tried by dipping them in the water used for brewing, at a temperature of 60°, when, if the water do not cut the stem of the instrument at the proper point indicated as the water line, the instrument should be adjusted. Many Irish brewers, by calculating in the above mentioned erroneous manner, are led to believe that their practice must be far superior to that pursued in the Sister Island, or that their malt must be of better quality. Neither of which, however, is the case.

DIASTASE.

LITTLE more has been elicited of the nature and powerful action of Diastase in the mash-tun, since our first publication. The minute directions given as to the first mashing temperatures, are calculated to secure as perfect and sound an extract, as the action of Diastase can produce. If, therefore, the indications before mentioned be shown, we may rest satisfied that as good an extract has been made as the malt used can possibly produce, at least in sound wort. If the indications do not take place, it must

proceed either from bad manipulation, or the inferiority of the materials used. Having thus endeavoured to put an end to all mystery on this most important subject, we here insert our article on Diastase from the First Edition.

The researches of the French chemists last summer (1834), will shed a new light on the nature and properties of malt, and the mode of extracting. *Starch* is described as consisting of minute particles, like granules, each of them included in a skin or cuticle, a thick, slimy, gum-like body, and therefore resembling somewhat the structure of seeds. To the internal contents of these granules, M. Biot gave the name *dextrin*; it might also be called starch-gum, because in its properties it is quite analogous with the latter. The skinned integument, including the *dextrin*, prevents the starch from coming forth; for starch is not soluble in cold water. But by breaking the cuticle this is accomplished, and gum produced from starch, or rather gum contained in starch, is made free.

For attaining this, the following means are at present known.—1. *Boiling*. The more such particles are torn by the heat, the more of the gum is dissolved; and the more particles of starch are preserved in the fluid, the more paste-like remains the latter.—2. *Roasting*. In both cases, the heat partly tears and partly annihilates the cuticles. This case sometimes occurs in kiln-drying.—

3. Treating it with some acid fluid.—4. Treating it with malt, which, in a manner not yet known, by a substance contained in it (*diastase*), has the power of lacerating the cuticles of the starch granules. The *diastase* contained in malt is said to be a solid, white, tasteless, uncrystallized body, soluble in water, but insoluble in alcohol. Dissolved in water, it turns sour very soon. Its most remarkable property is, that one part of it is sufficient to tear, or burst open, 2,000 parts of potatoe starch diluted by 8,000 parts of water, by which means its dextrin becomes free, and its insoluble cuticles are either precipitated or made to swim on the surface. Diastase is produced by diluting malt-meal, or bruised malt, in cold water, filtering the fluid, and heating it: it becomes turbid, and some substance resembling white of eggs is precipitated: strain again, and add absolute alcohol (free of water), whereby the diastase falls to the bottom, while the sugar which was in the malt remains dissolved. It is then dried by a low heat, because a higher one would decompose it. The heating of the solution is not necessary: or the diastase may be separated by the mere action of alcohol. Diastase, produced in the above manner, is not quite pure, still containing some azotic substance, which may be removed by a repeated digestion of the product by water, and precipitation by alcohol. In seeds, which have undergone germination, it is contained in the imme-

diate neighbourhood of the blade, but not in the rootlets. By the boiling-heat the diastase loses the power of converting starch into gum and sugar : this, therefore, is the substance by the action of which saccharification takes place in the mash-tun.

This completely accounts for an almost instantaneous change of colour in the extract, which invariably takes place in the mash-tun during the first mash, when the heats are properly taken.

If, therefore, this change of colour do not take place, we may rest assured that our mashing temperature is wrong.

It also proves what has been already stated in the foregoing pages, that nearly the whole of the extract is made in the first mash, and that all we do afterwards is merely washing out that which remains of the extract in the grains.

It also shows the importance of taking our first mashing temperature properly. By the boiling temperature, say the French chemists, the *diastase* loses the power of converting starch into gum or sugar. Thus *setting the goods* in the tun.

It may be possible that a considerably lower temperature than the boiling may have the same effect of destroying the power of the *diastase* ; indeed we know that it does so, as goods have often been set at much lower temperatures than boiling. As already stated, therefore, under the head of Mash-

ing, we should rather turn on the first liquor too low than too high ; for too low a temperature may be corrected in the after process, whilst, on the other hand, we now have it distinctly pointed out to us, that too high a temperature is destructive.

This discovery of the French chemists may also lead to other very important results in the formation of extracts ; but as it has only been pointed out to me by a friend since writing the foregoing pages, we are neither of us altogether prepared to give the results of any practical observations we have as yet made upon the subject. I know, however, that my friend, already mentioned, Mr. Robert Stein, had, long ago, ideas as to the formation of extract, which this new discovery appears completely to confirm.

SPONTANEOUS FERMENTATION.

It being a disputed point whether the vinous fermentation would take place, in worts or wash, when the air is excluded, without any addition of yeast or other ferment, we shall here introduce minutes of an experiment, which was made under our notice, and which appears very conclusive. The quantities operated upon were but small, being only two pints of distiller's wash. One pint at a gravity of 75.2

by Bates' instrument, was put into a common wine bottle, which was well corked, and a piece of bladder tied tightly over the cork, so as to exclude all extraneous matter: the gravity of the other pint was 41.5 by the same instrument, and was put into another bottle, and treated precisely as above, no yeast was employed. The two bottles were then suspended in a distiller's wash-back, which had just been pitched at a temperature of 66°, with the usual quantity of yeast.

Date of observation 1839.	No. 1 Bottle.		No. 2 Bottle.		
	Degrees of Temperature.	Gravity.	Degrees of Temperature.	Gravity.	
5, P.M.	52	75.2	54	41.5	Bottles placed in square.
Jan. 24	68	75.0	66	41.5	Wash back 71°, no appearance of fermentation in either bottle.
25	70	73.2	70	41.1	Back in which bottles were placed 80°. No. 1 bottle a creamy head. No. 2 a frothy head, and on drawing the cork a hissing noise was heard, fermentation in both pretty strong.
26	66	49.6	66	17.6	No. 2 bottle, the gas, on cutting the string of the bladder over the cork, forced it out violently, and the contents commenced working over like briak beer.
27	63	34.2	62	15.2	A frothy light yeasty head on both bottles, on No. 1 being uncorked, carbonic acid gas escaped, which blew out a candle. No. 2 also discharged gas with considerable force, and a portion of yeast adhered to the bottoms of the cork.
30	58	27.8	60	13.0	No. 1 bottle still a yeasty-like head. No. 2, head nearly disappeared; carbonic acid still apparent in each.
Feb. 1		25.4		11.4	Went to still.

The above samples were carefully distilled in a retort, and the relative products according to the attenuation were not far different from the wash-back in which they had been placed, and which had been fermented in the regular way, and was rather below 0. The bottle No. 1, produced at the rate of a gallon of spirits for every 5·4 attenuated ; and No. 2 at the rate of a gallon for every 5 attenuated ; while the back produced a gallon for every 4·5 attenuated.

The above experiment was made in the Government Experimental Distillery in the year 1840, by two experienced revenue officers, and under the author's inspection, while employed by Dr. Birkbeck in conducting certain operations then under investigation.

REPORTS

· CONCERNING BEER SENT TO CALCUTTA.

IN 1832, I brewed a small gyle of pale beer for the India market. The first worts were boiled one hour, the second one hour and a-half. I beg leave to subjoin the report made upon it in Calcutta.

“ Calcutta, 8th August, 1832.—Report on two hogsheads of Black's pale ale, examined in the custom-house godowns of Messrs. Lyall, Matheson

and Co.—Two hogsheads of Black's pale ale.—This pale ale, of superior quality, is well adapted for the India market, both in colour, body, and flavour.

(Signed) JOHN BROWNE AND Co.,
Coopers to the Honourable Company.

Another lot of this same beer went to Messrs. Watson and Co., and I beg leave, also, to insert a short extract of their letter to me, of date, Calcutta, 9th April, 1833.

“ We wrote to you on the 17th of November, to which we refer you.—Your beer is now ripe, and confirms what we then wrote you ; it is really most excellent, and, as such, we are disposing of it in small quantities, so as it may be known.”

This, at all events, proves that long boiling is not essential to the preservation of beer ; and I have come to the conclusion, that long boiling can do no good, but may do harm. Unless, therefore, longer time should be required for strength, one hour's boiling will sufficiently break the first worts, and two hours, at the utmost, will do the same by any other wort.

“ *London, Dec. 3, 1839.*

“ MY DEAR SIR,

“ In answer to your note, I can only say with regard to your beer supplied me when in ‘ the

Castle Huntly' the quality was highly approved of, not only by your acquaintance, but also the principal tasters in Calcutta, and by every one who drank it.

" I had some of Hodson's, and Ind and Smith's, but your's was preferred, not only on board, but in Calcutta, where it brought me Rs. 10 per hogs-head more than either of the others. The advice I was recommended to give you was *not to imitate the brewing of others, but to adhere strictly to your own plan, when you must succeed.*

" Yours, very truly,

(Signed) " D. GRASSICK."

The beer was brewed in Spitalfields.

FOR the following remarks on electricity, as connected with brewing, I am indebted to my friend Dr. Cumming, of 34, Lowndes-street, Pimlico, who has been some time engaged in investigating the effects of electricity on various substances :—

It has long been observed, that fermented liquors are soured after thunder storms, and it has not only been observed that fermented liquors are so affected, but also that butter, milk, animal food, and all organised matters, having a disposition to chemical change, are sometimes most rapidly decomposed

after thunder. These changes we are induced to ascribe to electrical agency, from the well known fact, that animals killed by lightning almost immediately become putrid. Dr. Franklin relates a remarkable instance of the rapid decomposition of a "flock of sheep, assembled under a tree which were killed by a flash of lightning. The proprietor, desirous of saving something, sent persons next morning to flay them; but the putrefaction was such, and the stench so abominable, that they could not execute his orders. The sheep were consequently buried in their skins." We might adduce many well-attested instances of similar effects produced on animals struck by lightning; and it can be proved by the evidence of many butchers in this city, that serious losses are often sustained by the rapid putrefaction of meat after thunder: a fact with which philosophers have long been acquainted. Dr. Franklin* suggested (no doubt from his knowledge of these effects of electricity) that animals might be rendered tender for the table by being killed by lightning. We are prepared experimentally to prove, that such chemical changes in fermented liquors are promoted by electricity, and not only in fermented liquors, but in all matters subject to decomposition; and the popular belief in the influence of this wonderful agent, which has so long been entertained, being thus

* Vide Franklin's Works, vol. vi. p. 231.

corroborated by experiment, we may, I think, look upon it as an established truth, that such chemical effects are produced by electrical changes, at least by those which take place during thunder.

There are, however, variations observable in fermentations and other chemical processes, when no thunder-storms occur. For instance, it has been noticed by many intelligent brewers, that their fermentations are more brisk during frost than they are during soft and warm weather, though in the latter case we might expect them to be rendered more active by the concurrence of a higher temperature. Bakers have observed similarly active states of the fermentation of their dough during frosty weather, while in soft and warm weather their fermentations are sometimes dull, and their bread apt to become sour.

It has been noticed both by bakers and brewers, that their fermentations are brisk during high winds, and more especially during high winds from the east and north, when no change of temperature appears to be concerned. Many variations in chemical actions obviously take place, when no alteration of the temperature or other sensible qualities of the surrounding atmosphere can be observed, by which they might be produced. We are consequently inclined to think, *that changes take place in the electrical states of the earth and air*, not manifested to us by the phenomena of thunder and

lightning, by which variations may be produced in chemical actions, and probably, chemical affinities brought into play, which might remain quiescent without their agency.

We learn from the researches of Beckerel,* by what feeble electrical forces great chemical results may be produced. Slight electrical polarity, produced by the temperature of a piece of metal being higher at one end than at the other, is sufficient to excite certain chemical actions.† From these facts, we may imagine the great power those alterations in the electrical states of the earth and air, which are constantly occurring in connection with meteorological changes, must have on chemical processes.

Mr. Weekes, of Sandwich, has kept a register of the electrical changes of the atmosphere for the last three years, which may be seen in the Transactions of the London Electrical Society. The instrument he uses for ascertaining these changes, is a wire for collecting the atmospherical electricity, extended between two elevated points, and connected with them by non-conductors. From the centre of this atmospherical wire, another wire extends to the electroscope, by which the power and appearance of the electricity collected by the former are manifested. To give an idea of the quan-

* Scientific Memoirs, vol. i., Beckerel on the Chemical Effects of Electric Currents.

† Vide Transactions of the London Electrical Society, part v. p. 281, M. Martens on the Passivity of Metals.

tity thus collected, I shall simply give Mr. Weekes' report for 9th May 1841, as per the register for that month:—"During a rain-and-hail shower, splendid and nearly incessant torrent of sparks for nearly an hour. The electric current exhibits singular intensity, rapidly decomposing fluids, igniting combustible substances, &c. The lateral discharge partially consumed an iron nail three and a-half inches long, with the brilliancy of an ordinary fire-work." We have here given one of the more decided instances of electrical changes occurring without thunder; but by a perusal of the register for three years, it will be seen, that changes are constantly observed in connection with changes of weather; and even without any decided change of weather, we find this influence, though to a much less extent, ever fluctuating and unsteady. We may consequently presume, if *chemical actions are affected by electrical influence*, that from the highest intensity of those electrical movements to the most feeble, *chemical effects, varying in degree and kind*, are produced in matters prone to decomposition. By observing the phenomena which pass around us, we may soon become convinced of the truth of these remarks. For instance; from ponds, the bottoms of which are composed of earthy and vegetable matters, we have, prior to changes of weather, and especially prior to and during rain, quantities of gas escaping in bubbles. Our

sense of smell affords evidence of the emanation of effluvia from putrescent matters, being more abundant at one time than another; and this is so generally observed in London, and its connection with changes of weather so obvious, that many consider an increase of stench from drains to be a sure premonition of rain.*

Some imagine, from the frequent occurrence of stench from sewers and drains, during easterly winds, that currents of air from that direction enter the drains, and force the stench back into the houses. But we know, that electrical movements are much more powerful than usual during easterly wind, and previous to and during rain; and consequently the more abundant extrication of gases and effluvia under such circumstances, may more properly be looked upon as an evidence of the *chemical effects of electricity*.

It has been noticed by many of our army medical officers at Gibraltar, that it is extremely difficult to keep armour clean during the north-east winds, which they call the black Levanters. These winds are certainly said to be moist, and this may probably be considered sufficient to account for their oxidating effects; but in order to ascertain that such processes of oxidation are affected by some less manifest influence, we have made comparative observations as to the time required, to oxidate or

* Vide Sir Gilbert Blane on the Diseases of Seamen, page 267.

rust, bright but unpolished plates of iron. When these plates are slightly sponged over with distilled water, the moisture will at one time evaporate without leaving a speck of rust, while at another, a covering of rust forms upon it almost immediately. We have found this more rapid tendency to oxidation, coincident with a high state of the electrical tension of the earth, upon which variations in other processes of oxidation also appear to depend. For instance, it is a matter of general observation, that our fires burn more brightly than usual, during frosty weather. A similar activity of combustion is also observed during high winds, especially when from the east or north. We have noticed the more obvious changes of the process of combustion, and also of the oxidation of iron, for two years, at the same time keeping a register of the electrical tension of the earth; and during this period we have found the more evidently bright states of combustion corresponding so uniformly with high electrical tension, that they may probably be considered as cause and effect.

From these facts we may, I think, conclude that fermentations must be greatly affected by electrical agency, and that many variations in those processes commonly ascribed to variations in the quantity or quality of the yeast employed, to temperature, &c. &c. really depend upon the changes of this more powerful and extensive influence. The

very remarkable instance given by Mr. Black, page 36, of the suspension of fermentation before a thunder-storm, and its immediate recommencement when the wort was pumped out of the vat embedded in the earth, into casks placed on wooden stands, affords a strong proof of the power of electricity over these processes. We cannot doubt but the cessation of the process was in this instance the effect of the negatively electric state of the earth which is generally observed before thunder. Whether the isolation produced by transferring the liquor from the vat into casks supported by wooden stands, was anywise effective in its recommencement, we cannot say. Negative surfaces do not appear to promote the chemical changes to which such liquors are disposed, at least we think this a fair inference from the results of the following experiments.

Into three pots of similar size and shape, two of them made of copper, and one of wood, we put equal quantities of wort. We kept them precisely in the same circumstances; but one of the copper pots was rendered negative by having a disk of zinc in its bottom. In the course of three weeks the worts in the other two pots underwent spontaneous fermentation, became sour, and ultimately putrid, whereas that in the negative pot, continued free from every appearance of fermentation and chemical change, and as sweet to the taste for

months as it was at the beginning.* These experiments have been frequently repeated with the same results; and if it be proved by further investigation, that chemical changes in worts are retarded by negative surfaces, coolers may be constructed on this principle, and reservoirs for preserving beer, in which a second fermentation or fret (as it is technically termed) will be less apt to occur: an accident, which is so often a cause of great loss to practical brewers. Vessels composed of zinc and copper are, of course, objectionable on account of their poisonous qualities. We find, however, from the investigations of M. Martens, member of the Royal Academy at Brussels, that iron may be rendered passive or negative, by a dull red heat, insomuch that it is not affected by the unfuming nitric acid of commerce, which powerfully affects common iron. The immersion of iron in highly concentrated nitric acid, has the same effect, and so has also the crystallizable, or highly concentrated acetic acid. Passive vessels may, consequently, be made of this metal, which is, I believe, already used for these purposes, without this important preparation.

It is not our intention to enter into any theoretical consideration of these phenomena; we merely point them out to practical men, in order to induce them to avail themselves of the opportunities they

* This the Author had the opportunity of witnessing.

enjoy, in conducting their great processes, by their observations and experiments, to aid us in tracing the effects of an agent, which we have reason to consider, not only influential in producing variations in the operations of the brewery, but what is still more important, variations in the constitution of our atmosphere, and probably effects on the functions of life, the comprehension of which may aid us, both in the prevention, and better treatment of epidemic and contagious diseases.

In concluding, we may observe, that brewers cannot too carefully avoid the circumstances calculated to produce electrico-chemical action, pointed out by Mr. Black; for it cannot be doubted, from the proofs he adduces, that local galvanic action is produced by the use of metallic cocks and chains of pipes, which being acted upon by the wort, cause unsoundness.

Dr. Cumming's observations as to the preservative qualities of negative vessels for worts or beer, are well worthy of attention; if negative utensils tend to prevent acidity in worts, which they no doubt do, they must have the same effect on beer, with this further advantage, that as it retards fermentation, it must prevent fret, which is a spurious or second fermentation, proceeding from an increase of temperature, or other atmospherical changes. It has been always found, that the more isolated vats, or

casks in which beer has to be kept, can be rendered, the better chance has the beer of not being injuriously affected by electricity. If vats, therefore, can be constantly kept in a negative state, the beer will be much less liable to suffer from *fret*, than when subjected to every electrical change which may occur.

CONCLUSION.

By the formulæ already given, any one capable of making common calculations may conduct a brewing with any quantity of malt, from one quarter to four hundred, on precisely the same plan. They, however, who are in the practice of brewing on a great scale, need no instructions for calculating.

All kinds of irregular fermentation have been so minutely described, as to place it in the power of every brewer to know the indications of unsoundness, whenever they may appear ; it has therefore been thought unnecessary to trace an irregular fermentation through all its stages. The only mode of avoiding it is to detect and remove the causes which induce irregularities. That this can be accomplished by those who have properly directed their

minds to the subject, there cannot be the slightest doubt.

The process of brewing porter or stout may be conducted in precisely the same manner as brewing ale ; the difference in flavour proceeds entirely from the brown and roasted malt used in making brown beer.

It has been already stated, that it is impossible to describe, by writing, certain aromas and appearances, denoting soundness or the contrary, which take place in the process of brewing, but particularly during fermentation, so as to make them intelligible to any one who is not already thoroughly acquainted with them, or who may not have had an opportunity of having them practically pointed out ; the Author, therefore, begs leave to state, that he will at all times be ready to afford any further information which may be wanted on the subject ; and for this purpose he may be consulted, either personally or by letter addressed to Messrs. Begbie and Young's, 27, Mark-Lane, or 4, Lansdowne Cottages, Lower-road, Islington.

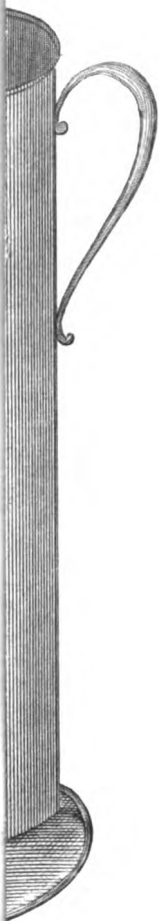
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